



HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO: Jason Hawkes	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Land South of Adversane, Adversane Lane, Adversane, West Sussex
DESCRIPTION:	EIA Scoping Opinion for a mixed-use development for a new settlement to accommodate 3,200 dwellings, employment uses, community uses and supporting infrastructure.
REFERENCE:	EIA/26/0005
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice / No Objection / Objection / More Information / Modification / Refusal
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION: The application area is within an Archaeological Notification Area and is well over the 0.5ha area that would require the results of a search of the West Sussex Historic Environment Record to be provided. An Environmental Scoping Report is provided that identifies that there is potential for as yet unknown archaeological remains to be present and so further assessment work is required to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment. This work should take the form of an initial desk based archaeological assessment informed by a comprehensive geophysical survey of the site.	

MAIN COMMENTS:

The application site is within an Archaeological Notification Area- DWS8561 denoted for evidence of prehistoric, lithic working and mine pits, as well as later medieval and post medieval farmsteads and industrial activity, and Roman Stane street runs along the Western boundary of the site.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report is provided, and this document contains a Cultural Heritage Chapter which has been informed by a desk based assessment produced by Orion Heritage. The report identifies that there are no designated heritage assets within the site boundary although there is potential for undesignated archaeological assets. To support the desk based research, a geophysical survey of currently accessible areas of the site has been carried out that has not revealed any definitive concentrations of archaeological activity, and a small scale field evaluation carried out to inform a previous application did not reveal any remains of archaeological significance.

The Scoping report recommends that further geophysical survey work should be carried out within areas that have not yet been surveyed and that these results will feed into a ES Chapter that will identify whether further investigation and mitigation is required. It is very probable that further investigation in the form of a comprehensive trial trench evaluation will be required, but as the surveys to date do not suggest that archaeological remains worthy of preservation in situ will be present, it is likely that this can be carried out following determination of the application secured by a planning condition. However, if the geophysical survey of the remaining areas suggests that significant remains are present then it may be necessary to require some targeted trenching prior to a decision.

I can therefore confirm that the Scoping Report correctly identifies that archaeology should be a topic within the proposed EIA and that the methodologies that are proposed will enable an informed decision to be made regarding the archaeological potential of the site and allow appropriate mitigation measures to be designed if required.

PROPOSED N/A**NAME:**

Nick Truckle BA MCIfA

DEPARTMENT:

Surrey County Council Historic Environment Planning

DATE:

1/7/2027