

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council FAO: Sam Whitehouse
FROM:	WSCC Highways - Public Rights of Way
DATE:	15 September 2026
LOCATION:	Land North of Rectory Lane, Ashington West Sussex
SUBJECT:	DC/26/1186 Outline Application for redevelopment of the site to provide up to 125 dwellings, access, public open space and associated landscaping, drainage and highways infrastructure with all matters reserved except access.
DATE OF SITE VISIT:	n/a
RELEVANT PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY NUMBER(S):	Footpath 2607
RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection
S106 CONTRIBUTION TOTAL:	n/a

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above numbered planning application. This proposal has been considered by means of a desktop study, using the information and plans submitted with this application, in conjunction with other available WSCC map information.

As stated in the NPPF, para 105, Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails.

Defra Rights of Way Circular (1/09) states *The effect that a proposed development will have on Public Rights of Way is a material consideration for planning authorities when deciding whether or not to approve a planning application. The potential consequences on Public Rights of Way must be taken into account. Information supplied by an applicant should therefore explain how the potential development will impinge on Public Rights of Way.*

Bearing the above in mind, my comments are as follows:

The site does not immediately impact on any Public Rights of Way (PRoW). I note it is part of the Ashington Northern Cluster Site and there are further sites to the south of Rectory Lane either committed or awaiting planning permission so taken into consideration with all those, does have the potential to significantly impact on surrounding PRoW.

The nearest PRoW is Footpath (FP) 2607 and there is already a commitment through a Section 106 agreement under planning application DC/22/0372 to enhance that.

The Planning Statement proposes a connection to FP2670 which is pleasing to see.

I therefore have no objections.

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Rights of Way information is not definitive.

Donna Trethewey
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Public Rights of Way
West Sussex County Council