



Horsham District Council

Application for Planning Permission

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Site Location

Disclaimer: We can only make recommendations based on the answers given in the questions.

If you cannot provide a postcode, the description of site location must be completed. Please provide the most accurate site description you can, to help locate the site - for example "field to the North of the Post Office".

Number

Suffix

Property Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Town/city

Postcode

Description of site location must be completed if postcode is not known:

Easting (x)

Northing (y)

Description

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Mr

First name

Sebastian

Surname

Peniston-Bird

Company Name

Vision Saunas

Address

Address line 1

The Sports Pavilion Church Lane

Address line 2

Address line 3

Town/City

Ashington

County

West Sussex

Country

Postcode

RH20 3JY

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Applicant Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

***** REDACTED *****

Fax number

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

Site Area

What is the measurement of the site area? (numeric characters only).

100.00

Unit

Sq. metres

Description of the Proposal

Please note in regard to:

- **Fire Statements** - From 1 August 2021, planning applications for buildings of over 18 metres (or 7 stories) tall containing more than one dwelling will require a 'Fire Statement' for the application to be considered valid. There are some exemptions. [View government planning guidance on fire statements](#) or [access the fire statement template and guidance](#).
- **Permission In Principle** - If you are applying for Technical Details Consent on a site that has been granted Permission In Principle, please include the relevant details in the description below.
- **Public Service Infrastructure** - From 1 August 2021, applications for certain public service infrastructure developments will be eligible for faster determination timeframes. See help for further details or [view government planning guidance on determination periods](#).

Description

Please describe details of the proposed development or works including any change of use

The proposal seeks planning permission for the creation of Vision Retreat, a small-scale wellness retreat involving the change of use of the site to provide sauna, cold water therapy and relaxation facilities.

The development will include a timber-framed reception/office, changing rooms, a mobile sauna, outdoor showers, two cold plunge pools, timber decking, a timber pergola and associated landscaping. The office and changing rooms will be constructed on galvanised ground screw foundations with timber framing, external timber cladding and flat roofs. The mobile sauna will be delivered as a completed unit and secured in position, with the decking wrapping around it.

The decking will be supported by ground screws and a timber subframe, minimising ground disturbance. The plunge pools and showers will be connected to the existing mains water supply and existing foul drainage system. Surface water from the office roof will discharge into the existing surface water drainage.

Electricity will be supplied from the neighbouring gym under an agreed arrangement, providing power to the office and low-level LED lighting throughout the site.

The development has been designed to minimise environmental impact through off-site construction, limited excavation and the use of ground screw foundations. No building or permanent structure will exceed 2.5 metres in height above the highest existing ground level, ensuring the proposal remains sympathetic to its surroundings and has minimal visual impact. The completed development will provide a high-quality wellness facility that promotes health, wellbeing and sustainable outdoor recreation.

Has the work or change of use already started?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please state the date when the work or change of use started (date must be pre-application submission)

28/06/2026

Has the work or change of use been completed?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Existing Use

Please describe the current use of the site

Unused green space (grass).

Is the site currently vacant?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please describe the last use of the site

Never been used.

When did this use end (if known)?

dd/mm/yyyy

Does the proposal involve any of the following? If Yes, you will need to submit an appropriate contamination assessment with your application.

Land which is known to be contaminated

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Land where contamination is suspected for all or part of the site

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

A proposed use that would be particularly vulnerable to the presence of contamination

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Materials

Does the proposed development require any materials to be used externally?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Please provide a description of existing and proposed materials and finishes to be used externally (including type, colour and name for each material)

Type:

Boundary treatments (e.g. fences, walls)

Existing materials and finishes:

Timber, 6ft fencing around majority of parameter

Proposed materials and finishes:

Timber decking, timber pergola

Type:

Roof

Existing materials and finishes:

Felted flat roof on office and changing room area.

Proposed materials and finishes:

N/A.

Type:

Other

Other (please specify):

Mobile Sauna (on wheels)

Existing materials and finishes:

Pre-built mobile sauna - 1.7mx3m

Proposed materials and finishes:

N/A

Type:

Other

Other (please specify):

Ground screws.

Existing materials and finishes:

20 metal ground screws to support timber framework for decking area, office and changing rooms.

Proposed materials and finishes:

N/A.

Are you supplying additional information on submitted plans, drawings or a design and access statement?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If Yes, please state references for the plans, drawings and/or design and access statement

Supplementary plan with drawing to be attached.

Pedestrian and Vehicle Access, Roads and Rights of Way

Is a new or altered vehicular access proposed to or from the public highway?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Is a new or altered pedestrian access proposed to or from the public highway?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Are there any new public roads to be provided within the site?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Are there any new public rights of way to be provided within or adjacent to the site?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Do the proposals require any diversions/extinguishments and/or creation of rights of way?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Vehicle Parking

Does the site have any existing vehicle/cycle parking spaces or will the proposed development add/remove any parking spaces?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Trees and Hedges

Are there trees or hedges on the proposed development site?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

And/or: Are there trees or hedges on land adjacent to the proposed development site that could influence the development or might be important as part of the local landscape character?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

You may need to provide a full tree survey, at the discretion of the local planning authority. If a tree survey is required, this and the accompanying plan should be submitted alongside the application.

The local planning authority should make clear on its website what the survey should contain, in accordance with the current 'BS5837: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'.

Assessment of Flood Risk

Is the site within an area at risk of flooding? (Check the location on the Government's [Flood map for planning](#). You should also refer to national [standing advice](#) and your local planning authority requirements for information as necessary.)

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Is your proposal within 20 metres of a watercourse (e.g. river, stream or beck)?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Will the proposal increase the flood risk elsewhere?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

How will surface water be disposed of?

☒ Sustainable drainage system

☐ Existing water course

☐ Soakaway

☒ Main sewer

☐ Pond/lake

Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

Is there a reasonable likelihood of the following being affected adversely or conserved and enhanced within the application site, or on land adjacent to or near the application site?

To assist in answering this question correctly, please refer to the help text which provides guidance on determining if any important biodiversity or geological conservation features may be present or nearby; and whether they are likely to be affected by the proposals.

a) Protected and priority species

☐ Yes, on the development site

☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development

☒ No

b) Designated sites, important habitats or other biodiversity features

☐ Yes, on the development site

☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development

☒ No

c) Features of geological conservation importance

☐ Yes, on the development site

☐ Yes, on land adjacent to or near the proposed development

☒ No

Supporting information requirements

Where a development proposal is likely to affect features of biodiversity or geological conservation interest, you will need to submit, with the application, sufficient information and assessments to allow the local planning authority to determine the proposal.

Failure to submit all information required will result in your application being deemed invalid. It will not be considered valid until all information required by the local planning authority has been submitted.

Your local planning authority will be able to advise on the content of any assessments that may be required.

Biodiversity net gain

Biodiversity net gain is a legal requirement for planning permission introduced on 12 February 2024. All applications are required to either provide detailed information proving there will be a biodiversity increase; or explain why the requirement does not apply to the development.

Do you believe that, if the development is granted permission, the general Biodiversity Gain Condition (as set out in [Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 \(as amended\)](#)) would apply?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Biodiversity net gain has been introduced as a general condition for planning permission. As set out in [The Environment Act 2021](#): "grants of planning permission in England [are] to be subject to a condition to secure that the biodiversity gain objective is met". Therefore, in England, all planning permissions are generally subject to biodiversity gain rules, unless they are specifically exempt or out of scope.

If you have stated that the biodiversity net gain requirement does not apply to your application you must provide the reason(s) why, and may also need to supply evidence (especially where you believe the application is eligible for the 'de minimis' exemption).

Reason biodiversity net gain does not apply:

selfBuildAndCustomBuildDevelopment

Are you building more than nine houses?:

No

Is the total size over 0.5 hectares?:

No

Do all buildings meet the definition of self-build or custom housebuilding as set out in [section 1\(A1\) of the Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015](#)?:

Yes

Does your Local Planning Authority require applicants for self-build and custom-build development to evidence their eligibility?:

Yes

Please justify the reason why biodiversity net gain does not apply:

Statement of Justification We confirm that mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) does not apply to this development for the following material reasons: Absence of Priority Habitats: The application site consists entirely of unused, non-priority land. The footprint does not impact any designated statutory protected sites, ancient woodland, or priority habitats. Low Ecological Baseline and Removable Structure: The proposed wellness centre spans approximately 100 square metres, is predominantly constructed of timber and lightweight materials, and is designed to be fully removable without causing permanent systemic degradation to the land. Protection of Existing Boundary Features: The site features only a small perimeter hedge with no mature trees. This small perimeter boundary feature is to be retained and protected throughout the course of the works, ensuring zero negative impact or loss of linear habitat. Proportionality and Local Authority Approval: The development has been reviewed in context with local requirements and aligns with the principles of proportionate planning regulation, causing no net loss to any ecological asset of high or medium distinctiveness. Consequently, full BNG metric calculation and off-setting conditions are neither legally triggered nor appropriate for this minor, low-impact structure.

Please read the help text for further information why developments may be exempt or not in scope.

Foul Sewage

Please state how foul sewage is to be disposed of:

- ☐ Mains sewer
- ☐ Septic tank
- ☐ Package treatment plant
- ☐ Cess pit
- ☒ Other
- ☐ Unknown

Other

N/A.

Are you proposing to connect to the existing drainage system?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Unknown

Waste Storage and Collection

Do the plans incorporate areas to store and aid the collection of waste?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

Have arrangements been made for the separate storage and collection of recyclable waste?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please provide details:

Allocated bins (waste and recycling).

Trade Effluent

Does the proposal involve the need to dispose of trade effluents or trade waste?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Residential/Dwelling Units

Does your proposal include the gain, loss or change of use of residential units?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

All Types of Development: Non-Residential Floorspace

Does your proposal involve the loss, gain or change of use of non-residential floorspace?

Note that 'non-residential' in this context covers all uses except Use Class C3 Dwellinghouses.

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Employment

Are there any existing employees on the site or will the proposed development increase or decrease the number of employees?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Hours of Opening

Are Hours of Opening relevant to this proposal?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Please add details of the of the Use Classes and hours of opening for each non-residential use proposed.

If you do not know the hours of opening, select the Use Class and tick 'Unknown'

Use Class:

E(c)(iii) - Other appropriate services in a commercial, business or service locality

Unknown:

No

Monday to Friday:

Start Time:

05:00

End Time:

21:00

Saturday:

Start Time:

05:00

End Time:

21:00

Sunday / Bank Holiday:

Start Time:

05:00

End Time:

21:00

Industrial or Commercial Processes and Machinery

Does this proposal involve the carrying out of industrial or commercial activities and processes?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Please describe the activities and processes which would be carried out on the site and the end products including plant, ventilation or air conditioning. Please include the type of machinery which may be installed on site:

Mobile Sauna wellness retreat. Use of saunas (8 people maximum), showers (x2), 2 shallow cold plunge pools, changing rooms.

Is the proposal for a waste management development?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Hazardous Substances

Does the proposal involve the use or storage of Hazardous Substances?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Site Visit

Can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or other public land?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If the planning authority needs to make an appointment to carry out a site visit, whom should they contact?

- ☐ The agent
☒ The applicant
☐ Other person

Pre-application Advice

Has assistance or prior advice been sought from the local authority about this application?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If Yes, please complete the following information about the advice you were given (this will help the authority to deal with this application more efficiently):

Officer name:

Title

***** REDACTED *****

First Name

***** REDACTED *****

Surname

***** REDACTED *****

Reference

Date (must be pre-application submission)

21/07/2026

Details of the pre-application advice received

We spoke to the Chairman of Ashington CC, Chris Wood, who spoke with Jo, who advised us that we need to seek planning permission with Horsham District Council. Ashington CC agreed for the development of Vision Saunas and want to support us with this planning permission.

Authority Employee/Member

With respect to the Authority, is the applicant and/or agent one of the following:

- (a) a member of staff
- (b) an elected member
- (c) related to a member of staff
- (d) related to an elected member

It is an important principle of decision-making that the process is open and transparent.

For the purposes of this question, "related to" means related, by birth or otherwise, closely enough that a fair-minded and informed observer, having considered the facts, would conclude that there was bias on the part of the decision-maker in the Local Planning Authority.

Do any of the above statements apply?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes, please provide details of their name, role, and how they are related:

***** REDACTED *****

Ownership Certificates and Agricultural Land Declaration

Certificates under Article 14 - Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)

Please answer the following questions to determine which Certificate of Ownership you need to complete: A, B, C or D.

Is the applicant the sole owner of all the land to which this application relates; and has the applicant been the sole owner for more than 21 days?

E.g. All the land is owned by a single individual

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Is the land owned by multiple individuals, or has agricultural tenants where the details of all individuals are known by the Applicant?

E.g. The land is owned by 2 people and the applicant can provide details of those owners.

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

Certificate Of Ownership - Certificate B

I certify/ The applicant certifies that:

- ☒ I have/The applicant has given the requisite notice to everyone else (as listed below) who, on the day 21 days before the date of this application, was the owner* and/or agricultural tenant** of any part of the land or building to which this application relates; or
- ☐ The applicant is the sole owner of all the land or buildings to which this application relates and there are no other owners* and/or agricultural tenants**.

* "owner" is a person with a freehold interest or leasehold interest with at least 7 years left to run.

** "agricultural tenant" has the meaning given in section 65(8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Name of Owner/Agricultural Tenant:

***** REDACTED *****

House name:

Number:

Suffix:

Address line 1:

Foster Lane

Address Line 2:

Ashington

Town/City:

Pulborough

Postcode:

RH20 3PG

Date notice served (DD/MM/YYYY):

01/06/2026

Person Family Name:

Person Role

☒ The Applicant

☐ The Agent

Title

Mr

First Name

Sebastian

Surname

Peniston-Bird

Declaration Date

23/07/2026

☒ Declaration made

Declaration

I/We hereby apply for Full planning permission as described in the questions answered, details provided, and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information.

I/We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.

I/We also accept that, in accordance with the Planning Portal's terms and conditions:

- Once submitted, this information will be made available to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be published as part of a public register and on the authority's website;
- Our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

☒ I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

Sebastian Peniston-Bird

Date

02/09/2026

Amendments Summary

Updates made further to email from Portia Hunt on 1 September 2026 requiring:

- 1. The Proposed Site/Block plan not measuring to scale, and labelled incorrectly
- 2. The office floor/elevations require a scale bar.