

Subject: Vehicle Crossover (VCO) License

From: George Fort <George.Fort@westsussex.gov.uk>

Date: 01/09/2026, 11:22

To: "robert@thornton-design.com" <robert@thornton-design.com>

Dear Robert,

Following a site assessment by our Arboriculturist, the location has been reviewed and deemed suitable for the installation of a Vehicle Crossover (VCO).

The assessment identified the presence of a mature oak tree in close proximity to the proposed crossover location. As such, approval is conditional upon the installation of a Cellular Confinement System (CCS) as part of the construction. This system is specifically designed to protect the tree's root structure by distributing vehicle loads across a wider area, thereby minimising soil compaction and reducing the potential for damage to the roots.

The use of a Cellular Confinement System will help ensure the long-term health and viability of the oak tree whilst still allowing the crossover to be constructed and used safely. This approach balances the applicant's access requirements with the Council's duty to protect and preserve valuable highway trees and the environmental benefits they provide.

Subject to the Cellular Confinement System being incorporated into the design and constructed in accordance with the approved specification, we are satisfied that the Vehicle Crossover can proceed without causing unacceptable harm to the tree or its root protection area.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

George Fort

Assistant Area Highway Manager – Central Area (Adur, Worthing, Horsham District)
Economy, Infrastructure & Environment – Highways, Transport and Planning
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— Attachments:

AA_GuidanceNote12_CellularConfinementSystems-Web (1).pdf

6.9 MB