West Sussex County Council - Planning Consultation Response

To: Horsham District Council

Date: 13 October 2026

FAO: Meg Bayliss

From: WSCC - Highways Authority

LPA Reference: DC/26/1331

Location: 18 Greenfields Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4LQ

Proposal: Erection of boundary wall with timber infills adjacent to 1 Amberley Road (Retrospective).

Date of Site Visit: N/A

Recommendation: Advice

This application has been dealt with in accordance with the Development Control Scheme protocol for small scale proposals.

This application is for the erection of boundary wall with timber infills adjacent to 1 Amberley Road. The application is retrospective with the Application Form stating that the work was completed in July 2026. The site is located on Greenfields Way, an unclassified road subject to a speed restriction of 30 mph.

The LHA notes that there have been several representations expressing concern regarding loss of visibility due to the proposals. Having reviewed the submitted plans and WSCC mapping, the proposed works are not anticipated to obstruct vehicular visibility splays for the site or junction between Greenfields Way and Amberley Road. The increased height of the wall may reduce the pedestrian visibility for vehicles using the existing access at 1 Amberley Road. However, Section 10.6.1 of Manual for Streets 2 (MfS2) states that the absence of wide visibility splays at minor accesses will encourage drivers to appear more cautiously - similarly, to how vehicles pull out when visibility along the carriageway is restricted. Section 10.6.2 also states that the frequency of vehicular movements should also be taken into account - the number of vehicular movements associated with a single residential dwelling is not anticipated to be high, therefore the proposals are unlikely to result in detrimental impact. Finally, the footway at present is expected to be of sufficient width to allow a pedestrian to anticipate a car manoeuvring from the parking area.

An inspection of collision data provided to WSCC by Sussex Police from a period of the last five years reveals no recorded collisions attributed to the use of the existing access. Therefore, there is no evidence to suggest the existing access has been operating unsafely, or that the proposals would exacerbate an existing safety concern.

The LHA does not consider that this proposal would have an unacceptable impact on highway safety or result in 'severe' cumulative impacts on the operation of the highway network, therefore is not contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework (in line with TR6 paragraph 4) and that there are no transport grounds to resist the proposal.

Liz Corcoran
West Sussex County Council – Planning Services (Highways)