MEMORANDUM

Horsham District Council

To: **Shazia Penne** Ref: **DC/24/1335**

From: **Mark Nicholls, Environmental Health** Date: **07/01/25**

Proposal: The change of use of agricultural land for the exercising of dogs together with the installation of perimeter fencing, pathways and associated parking.

Address: Patmans Farm Billingshurst Road Coolham Horsham

Background

1.1 Area This is a quiet rural area with several residential properties in close proximity.

1.2 History There are no complaints of statutory nuisance in the surrounding area.

2.0 Findings With limited information available via the application, this would appear to be an unsupervised field which is available for hire in order to exercise dogs. There is no booking arrangements, so this could consist of several people in a group booking with their dogs. The site relies on complaints to monitor noise and excrement build up on the site as no management plan has been submitted.

2.1 Pollution: further 2.0 above. This department cannot support the application as there is no scope for substantive noise control measures. This will cause an adverse impact to the residential neighbours, and therefore cause loss of amenity. Dogs barking is a noise that humans instinctively hear. It signifies danger or a call to action. This is different to noise such as road noise or aircraft as that is something that people get used to hearing in the background and can ignore to the point where they do not consciously hear it. So, whilst someone may not be disturbed by aircraft noise, dogs barking in the vicinity may cause a great deal of disturbance.

3.0 Conclusion This department cannot support this application as there is insufficient information available to assess the application.
The Business Management Plan provided does not satisfy the mitigation of likely nuisance from dogs barking.