



HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Land Parcel at 518618 134195 Old Holbrook Horsham West Sussex
DESCRIPTION:	Details pursuant to Schedule 4, Part 15 of the legal agreement (ref DC/16/1677) for the Phase 2 Eastern Allotments Specification.
REFERENCE:	S106/26/0027
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION:	
Our comments relate mainly to drawing ref 2898-5-2-16 DR-0004 S5-P3. We have reviewed the allotment plan in relation to the management viability of the site. There are some important improvements that could be made to make the site more financially viable and resilient to climate change including: • Maximising number of plots • Increasing the number of water tanks • Providing self-filling water tanks to prevent water wastage The other comments relate to: • Positioning of trees causing issues with plots • Viability of hedge maintenance	

MAIN COMMENTS:

Financial viability is becoming a big issue for allotment societies, even more so with the increase in water rates and the prolonged dry weather. With this in mind, there are some important changes that we would like to propose:

- 1) Maximise the number of plots to increase income potential. Another two more plots could potentially be added by reducing the amount of parking spaces – half the number should be sufficient, moving all the accessible beds to the south of the lockable store, removing the space for the picnic benches and reducing the grass area to the south of the site.
- 2) Increase the amount of water tanks. We suggest two 1000l containers on the lockable store and a further two 1000l containers to the north of the site with their own shelters for harvesting the water. Examples below. This could be placed instead of the communal compost bays which don't work in practice. It works much better for plot holders to compost on their own plot.



- 3) The water outlets should be self-filling water tanks to prevent people leaving a hose running and racking up a huge water bill. They also prevent stagnant water. The pipework above ground all needs to be lagged to protect from winter freezing.



In addition to the above we have some concern over the placement of the four trees to the north of the car parking and potentially in the hedge line. Depending on the

species, they may well cast too much shade on the plots, cause issues with roots into the allotment plot or take moisture from the plots. Please confirm species and whether it may be viable to remove them.

Confirmation is needed on how the perimeter hedge would be maintained. The plan shows that most of the hedge is on the outside of the 1.8m fence, which means that the allotment society couldn't maintain it. Please provide context on the accessibility of the hedge for maintenance.

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS:

NAME:	Anna Chapman, Parks and Countryside Development Manager and Hannah Neale, Landscape & Horticultural Officer
DEPARTMENT:	Parks and Countryside
DATE:	23 rd July, 2026