

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	West Sussex County Council FAO: James Neave
FROM:	WSCC - Highways Authority
DATE:	26 June 2023
LOCATION:	Recycle Southern Ltd Elbridge Farm Chichester Road Bognor Regis PO21 5EF
SUBJECT:	WSCC/021/23 Regularisation, consolidation and extension to the existing waste transfer facility including an increase in throughput of waste.
DATE OF SITE VISITS:	April and July 2022 under application WSCC/007/22 and 26th June 2023 as part of this assessment
RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection
S106 CONTRIBUTION TOTAL:	n/a

Background

West Sussex County Council (WSCC) in its role of Local Highway Authority (LHA) has been consulted on the above proposals for highway safety, capacity and access considerations at the site. seeking planning permission to consolidate and regularise the existing waste management operations and extend the existing Materials Recycling Facility and Waste Transfer Station. Planning Application (WSCC/007/22) was submitted on 23rd March 2022 seeking a variation to conditions 2 and 11 of planning permission WSCC/036/14/BE to increase throughput of waste from 30,000 tonnes per annum to 75,000 tonnes per annum and seek approval for minor changes to the site layout. This application was withdrawn in July 2022 in order to address planning and environmental issues raised by the Waste Planning Authority and WSCC as LHA. Previously in July 2022 the LHA raised the following concerns with the proposals:

- Request for a completed GG119 Road Safety Audit (RSA) template for the LHA to sign off
- Explore whether the area of public highway near the site entrance can be re-surfaced and the existing cycle/footway can have clearer signage in accordance with LTN 1/20 parameters
- Further consideration to ensure wheel washing takes place at the site access entrance to mitigate against further debris on the highway.

Discussions were undertaken with the applicant in August 2022 in order to find a way forward with the points above. The transport aspects of the proposals are supported by way of a revised Transport Statement (TS) which includes a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit (RSA). The LHA has reviewed this document and would offer the following comments on the original points raised in 2022 and other aspects of the proposals.

Stage 1 RSA

As requested, the RSA has been signed off by the LHA and is included within Appendix H of the TS. All matters raised in the RSA have been addressed in accordance with the

Auditor recommendations and there are no outstanding matters raised through the audit process.

Minor Road Widening, Re-Surfacing and Cycle Path

As part of the mitigation the applicant is providing some minor road widening at the point of access with the A259. The LHA would agree that this is a benefit to the site operation and will allow egress to the site and be an improvement over the existing situation.

An additional drawing (2003024-GA-01 rev B) showing the extent of S278 works and Cycle Path signage has been provided. It is considered that the cycle land and access re-surfacing offers an improvement over the existing situation and the improvements would be in line with LTN 1/20 guidance. It is noted the Safety Auditor has passed comment on this and is satisfied subject to regular maintenance. The works on the highway will need to be subject to a Section 278 Agreement with the LHA.

Wheel Washing

We are aware that there has been local concern on the amount of mud and debris left from vehicles entering and exiting the site on the A259, especially during wet weather. We are mindful that this has been occurring for some time and would clearly have increased with the additional movements to and from the site.

As part of our discussions with the applicant following the withdrawal of WSCC/007/22 a commitment was made to a wheel washing facility within the site. This is confirmed within the TS in paragraph 5.41 and in the Planning Statement paragraph 2.15.1. Within the Planning Statement the facility is confirmed as a brush and hose. During our discussions it was understood this would be a bespoke wheel washing facility with specialist content. On the basis this can still be provided the LHA would be satisfied and a suitable planning condition to be attached to any planning consent securing this facility.

Capacity

The original TS confirmed that the increase in site activity is likely to have resulted in trips increasing from the original 30,000 tonne handling estimate of 60 HGV trips per day, to 150 HGV trips a day. This represents an increase of 90 HGV movements daily. The current TS has the same estimate for the proposed usage. The LHA has previously not raised a concern with regards to capacity in our earlier consultation responses.

Conclusion

Having assessed the latest TS the areas raised by the LHA in 2022 are now considered to have been addressed. The LHA would therefore advise in line with National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 111 where applications should only be resisted if the residual impact is deemed 'Severe'. Any approval of Planning Permission would be subject the following conditions:

Access (Access to be provided in accordance with agreed timetable)

No part of the development shall be first occupied until such time as a timetable covering the revision to the vehicular and non-vehicular accesses serving the development has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The accesses shall thereafter be constructed in accordance with the approved timetable and details shown on the drawing titled General Arrangement and numbered 2003024-GA-01 rev B.

Reason: In the interests of road safety.

Wheel Washing

No development shall be carried out on the site unless and until an effective vehicle wheel-cleaning facility has been installed in accordance with details provided by the

Local Planning Authority and such facility shall be retained in working order and throughout the period of work on site to ensure the vehicles do not carry mud and earth on to the public highway, which may cause a hazard to other road users.

Reason: In the interests of road safety.

INFORMATIVE

The applicant is required to obtain all appropriate consents from West Sussex County Council, as Highway Authority, to cover the off-site highway works. The applicant is requested to contact The Implementation Team Leader (01243 642105) to commence this process. The applicant is advised that it is an offence to undertake any works within the highway prior to the agreement being in place.

Jamie Brown

West Sussex County Council – Planning Services