

**Evergreen Farm
West Hoathly Road
East Grinstead
East Sussex
RH19 4ND**

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE ACCESS

STAGE 1 ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

Report No. EC/2019/10/FP1

October 2019



Prepared by:

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Project Sponsor: Dan McEwan

Project: Redevelopment at Evergreen Farm

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DISTRIBUTION

Issue No.	Issued To	Date Issued
1.	Dan McEwan – Fluid Planning Ltd	22/10/2019
2.	Office Copy	22/10/2019

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 EC Road Safety Limited has been commissioned by Fluid Planning Ltd to undertake a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit on the access arrangements associated with the redevelopment of land at the existing Evergreen Farm site West Hoathly Road, East Grinstead. Restoration of the former Standen Landfill Site with a woodland and pasture landfill cap system is currently proposed and being considered by the Local Authority, however, as the proposals will result in an increase in the number of HGV movements within the site and onto the public highway, the Local Authority have requested a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit of the proposed site access arrangements to assess the suitability and safety of such a proposal.

1.1.2 The scope of the audit relates to the proposed access arrangements both to and from the site considering the increased HGV movements expected with the proposed site redevelopment.

1.1.3 Evergreen Farm is situated on West Hoathly Road, East Grinstead. West Hoathly Road is a single carriageway road which narrows in places, particularly within the vicinity of the Evergreen Farm site. It links to Saint Hill to the south and Sunnyside to the north. The road is subject to the national speed limit of 60mph for a single carriageway road and is rural in the main. There are no footways present and the road consists of banks and verges either side lined with trees and woodland. There is currently no street lighting present. The road is a bus route with bus stops located in the immediate vicinity of the proposed exit route for HGV's leaving the Evergreen Farm site. This is due to the National Trust Standen House and Gardens site access situated off West Hoathly Road, which the Evergreen Farm proposed HGV exit point adjoins.

1.1.4 The Road Safety Audit Team (approved by Dan McEwan – Fluid Planning Ltd) consisted of:

Vinny Rey

**BEng (Hons) MCIHT, MSoRSA
RSA, Cert. Comp**

Traffic Engineer
Road Safety Audit Team Member

Paul Nevard

**MSc, BA (Hons) CMILT, MCIHT, MSoRSA
RSA, Cert. Comp**

Director – EC Road Safety Ltd
Principal Traffic Engineer
Road Safety Audit Team Leader

1.1.5 The Road Safety Audit Brief issued by the Project Sponsor and subsequently accepted by the Audit Team consisted of the following plans:

- 0043 Evergreen Farm (A2) fp0043.2 Block Plan.pdf
- 0043 Evergreen Farm (A2) fp0043.10 Vehicle Tracking Plan.pdf

1.1.6 The Audit Team examined the Audit Brief and plans at the EC Road Safety office on Thursday 17th October 2019 and the site was subsequently examined by Paul Nevard and Vinny Rey together in daylight hours between 12:45 and 13.00 hours, Friday 18th October 2019. The weather during the daytime site visit was bright although the carriageway showed signs of dampness due to earlier showers. Traffic flows were moderate and vehicle speeds were observed as also being moderate.

1.1.7 No detailed information on the drainage, lighting, personal injury collisions, strategic signage or levels have been provided. These issues are not, therefore, been considered in detail in this report.

- 1.1.8 The Road Safety Audit also comprised of an examination of the documents forming the Audit Brief supplied to the Road Safety Audit Team and are referenced in Appendix A of this report. The location of any problems raised can be found within the report, photographed for reference or referenced in Appendix B of this report. If no problems are identified, only a location plan will be provided for reference in Appendix B.
- 1.1.9 The terms of reference of the Road Safety Audit are as described in the Highways England General Principles and Scheme Governance General information GG 119 Road Safety Audit (formerly HD19/15). The Road Safety Audit Team has examined and reported only on the road safety implications of the scheme as presented and has not examined or verified the compliance of the designs to any other criteria. This Road Safety Audit has not considered structural safety or checked for compliance to standards. This safety audit does not perform any "Technical Check" function on these proposals. It is assumed that the Project Sponsor is satisfied that such a "Technical Check" has been successfully completed prior to requesting this safety audit.
- 1.1.10 This Road Safety Audit has been undertaken based on the Road Safety Audit Team's previous experience and knowledge in undertaking Accident Investigation, Road Safety Engineering and Road Safety Audits. No member of the Road Safety Audit Team has had any previous input to the design of the scheme. The audit has been carried out with the sole purpose of identifying any features of the design that could be removed or modified in order to improve the safety of the scheme. The problems identified have been noted in this report together with suggestions for safety improvements, which we recommend should be studied for implementation.

1.2 Purpose of Scheme

- 1.2.1 The purpose of the scheme is redevelopment of the existing Evergreen Farm site.

2. PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN PREVIOUS ROAD SAFETY AUDITS

No previous audits have been supplied to the Audit Team and the Audit Team believe that none have been produced.

3. PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED AT THIS STAGE 1 ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

3.1 General

3.1.1 PROBLEM

Location: Proposed exit onto West Hoathy Road

Summary: Possible vehicle overrun could result in pedestrian injury.

Detail: Information provided to the Audit Team indicates that HGV vehicles will be turning left when exiting the development site, however, no vehicle tracking has been provided for these turning movements. The concern is that the movements will be tight and could lead to vehicles overrunning the southwestern kerb line where there is currently a narrow bus stop waiting area at the location. Vehicle overrun would not only put pedestrians waiting at risk of being struck but would cause damage to the kerbing at the location which could cause a further trip hazard. In addition, the overrun would deteriorate the waiting area making it less desirable for pedestrians which could result in them standing / waiting in the live carriageway causing a secondary risk.

RECOMMENDATION

Provide adequate swept path and tracking to show that turning movements can be made without vehicle overrun.

3.2

Local Alignment

No Problems identified in this category at this Stage.

3.3

Junctions

No Problems identified in this category at this Stage.

3.4 Non-Motorised User Provision

No Problems identified in this category at this Stage.

3.5 Road Signs, Carriageway Markings & Street Lighting

3.5.1 PROBLEM

Location: Proposed HGV exit onto Hoathly Road

Summary: Lack of signs could result in side swipe type collisions.

Detail: Although it is proposed to have a one way in and one way out system that ensures HGV's do not travel along the same stretch of road when entering and leaving the site, there is no signage to ensure that this does not occur. It is proposed that HGV's exiting the site will turn left on West Hoathly Road to ensure that they do not encounter westbound HGV traffic trying to enter the site as the road becomes narrow in parts and, if such instances were to occur, it would result in difficulties for two HGV vehicles to safely pass each other. Such instances could lead to side swipe type collisions.

RECOMMENDATION

Signs should be installed directing HGV traffic to turn left on West Hoathly Road when exiting the development site.

[End of list of Problems identified and Recommendations offered in this Stage 1 Audit](#)

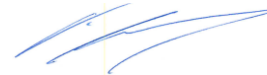
4. AUDIT TEAM STATEMENT

We certify that this audit has been carried out in accordance with GG119.

AUDIT TEAM LEADER

Vinny Rey

Signed:



Date: 21/10/2019

AUDIT TEAM MEMBER

Paul Nevard

Signed:



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APPENDIX A

List of documents and plans considered during this Stage 1 Road Safety Audit:

- 0043 Evergreen Farm (A2) fp0043.2 Block Plan.pdf
- 0043 Evergreen Farm (A2) fp0043.10 Vehicle Tracking Plan.pdf

APPENDIX B

Location of problems identified at this Stage 1 Road Safety Audit

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