

West Sussex County Council
County Planning
County Hall
Chichester
PO19 1RH

Our Ref: SDNP/20/05302/ADJAUT
Contact Officer: Nat Belderson
Tel. No.: 01730 814810

18th December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Neighbouring Authority Consultation

Proposal: Adjacent Authority Consultation - WSCC/052/20 - The construction of a 1.3km single carriageway with a 3m wide shared cycleway/footway, 2.5m wide central island, one uncontrolled pedestrian crossing with a central island to enable users of the PRoW to cross the carriageway, three roundabouts, provision of hard and soft landscaping, road markings, traffic signals, bus stops, and signalised pedestrian crossings, construction of a substation building; installation of a noise barrier, and associated works

Address: Land to The North of Eastergate and North-west of Barnham, PO22 0DF

Thank you for your correspondence received 24 November 2020, consulting us as a neighbouring authority on the above noted development proposals.

Although the application site is located outside of the National Park, the Council has a statutory duty to consider the Purposes of the National Park when making its determination. The statutory purposes and duty of the National Park are:

- **Purpose 1:** To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area.
- **Purpose 2:** To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.
- **Duty:** To seek to foster the social and economic wellbeing of the local communities within the National Park in pursuit of our purposes.

The National Park's comments on the development are as follows:

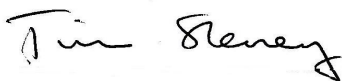
The proposals include the creation of a wildlife corridor adjacent to the highway, but would not result in a net gain in biodiversity. We would therefore encourage further investigation into ecological enhancements, including opportunities for cross-highway connections to mitigate for severance issues.

The SDNPA has been successful in achieving Dark Skies Reserve status for the South Downs National Park - only the second such Reserve in England. For further information please see <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/dark-night-skies/>. Given that the intention for the road seems to be for a speed limit of 30mph, it will need either a system of street lighting or a system of repeater signage and the submitted plans show multiple indicative locations for lighting columns. Such streetlighting (ie to indicate a built up area that has a default speed of 30mph) can be installed at a maximum of 183m apart. We would recommend that lighting columns are spaced as far apart as possible to reduce the number required and the cumulative impact of the light pollution, and that the fittings be conditioned so minimise pollutions,

including the use of directed lanterns and blue/uv light filtering.

A key access route to the site would be via the A27 which passes through the South Downs National Park. The SDNPA therefore encourages the County Council to seek a Construction Worker Travel Plan and an effort to reduce the amount of single occupancy private cars arriving at the work site. The application documentation states that Barnham Station is located approximately 0.6km to the southeast of the site and that there are six bus services within the vicinity of the scheme. This would be a good opportunity to promote use of public transport for the workforce to reach the site, perhaps replacing a number of private car movements with a single mini-bus pickup from the station and/or walking/cycling from the bus stops/station.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Slaney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and a long, sweeping underline.

TIM SLANEY
Director of Planning
South Downs National Park Authority

Contact Officer
Nat Belderson
nat.belderson@southdowns.gov.uk

