

WSSC COUNTY ARBORICULTURAL OFFICER response to planning consultation

Application reference number: WSSC/052/20 **additional comments**

Location: Land to the north of Eastergate and north-west of Barnham, PO22 0DF

Proposal: Construction of a single carriageway with shared cycleway / footway, roundabouts, road markings, traffic signals, bus stops, provision of hard and soft landscaping, construction of a substation building, installation of a noise barrier, and other associated works

District: Arun

Date: 2nd June 2021

Summary response: no objection subject to appropriately worded conditions to secure full tree protection, full and detailed landscape specification, and long-term maintenance plans

Response: Most of the points raised in earlier comments (9th December 2020) appear to have been addressed; achieving biodiversity net gain is welcome but this will only be secured in perpetuity through rigorous adherence to approved long term maintenance plans.

There are still some niggling omissions and errors, e.g. lack of typical planting layout matrices; still no indication of numbers of specimen trees or orchard trees and Kentish Pippin is not a Sussex apple variety. Maintenance and aftercare of the orchard is not addressed in the LMMP; it requires different treatment to the rest of the soft landscaping.

There are still references to severing ivy on existing trees in the LMMP – ivy is not a concern in most situations and should not be severed as a matter of routine; it could be a nesting / roosting habitat.

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