

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	West Sussex County Council FAO: James Neave
FROM:	WSCC - Highways Authority
DATE:	4 November 2021
LOCATION:	Ford Circular Technology Park, Ford Road, Ford BN18 0XL
SUBJECT:	WSCC/011/21 Demolition of existing buildings and structures and construction and operation of an energy recovery facility and a waste sorting and transfer facility for treatment of municipal, commercial and industrial wastes, including ancillary buildings, structures, parking, hardstanding, and landscape works.
DATE OF SITE VISIT:	n/a
RECOMMENDATION:	Objection / Refusal
S106 CONTRIBUTION TOTAL:	TBC

This is the third formal response on the application by West Sussex County Council as Highway Authority. Following on from the 2nd response one issue remained outstanding:

Provision of a word copy of the designer's response.

A designer's response has been provided and 5 out of the 6 issues raised by the auditor are agreed with.

A 6th issue, in which the auditor recommends the widening of the access onto Ford Road is disagreed with and discussions are ongoing to agree an acceptable agreed action.

To date no agreed action to address the auditor's concerns of "large vehicles were having difficulty in maintaining lane discipline when turning into or out of the junction, partially caused by higher than suitable speeds of vehicles and partly because the junction is too narrow for the configuration that includes the angle formed by the site access road." has been developed or an exception report agreed. Vehicle tracking has been provided for a max length legal artic and confirms the auditor's identification on the issue showing a significant overrun by these vehicles turning into and out of the site access road this would result in the following type of collisions:

1. Large vehicles entering the site access road were in danger of meeting outcoming traffic head-on
2. Incoming traffic clipping the front of outcoming traffic turning right
3. Outgoing traffic clipping the front of incoming traffic, especially those entering from the south

Conclusion

Issues raised within the Road Safety Audit have not been addressed. As a result, there has been a failure to demonstrate a safe and adequate means of access to the highway for the type and volume of development traffic proposed by reason of width and configuration of the site access onto Ford Road.

It has not been demonstrated that the development would not have an adverse impact on the safety of all road users. As a result, the proposed development is contrary to Policy W18 of the West Sussex Waste Local Plan (2004) and the NPPF paragraphs 110 and 111. Based on the information provided, West Sussex County Council as Highway Authority object to the proposed development and recommend that planning permission should be refused for following reason:

It has not been demonstrated that the proposed access and egress onto the highway is adequate to accommodate the proposed type and volume of development traffic proposed by reason of width and configuration of the site access onto Ford Road. It has not been demonstrated that the development would not have an adverse impact on the safety of all road users. The proposed development is, therefore, contrary to Policy W18 of the West Sussex Waste Local Plan (2004) and paragraphs 110 and 111 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021).

Stephen Gee
West Sussex County Council – Planning Services