

## WSCC TREE OFFICER response to planning consultation

**Application reference number:** WSCC/015/18/NH

**Location:** Former Wealden Brickworks (Site HB), Langhurstwood Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD

**Proposal:** Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Facility and Ancillary Infrastructure

**District:** Horsham DC

**Grid ref:** 517058 134349

**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**Summary response:** no objection subject to appropriately worded condition regarding landscaping proposals

**Response:** Assuming it is possible to implement them, the illustrative landscape proposals should help to 'soften' the appearance of the building at close quarters and improve habitat provision on the site. The planting should not be adversely affected by any subsequent heat network provision or other utility / drainage installation.

A full, detailed planting specification is required together with a long term maintenance and management plan.

Most of the proposed species are acceptable, but *Pyracantha* and *Photinia* are too ornamental for a site boundary hedge. If it is intended that these species are to be confined just outside the proposed offices and workshop then that is acceptable. Ash cannot be planted due to ash dieback; use pedunculate oak [*Quercus robur*] instead.

It is noted that site preparation phase 1 includes forward / advance planting which is welcome, but must be properly protected during subsequent construction.

There are trees and hedgerows on both sides of the access road in close proximity to the edges of the road – is there any likelihood of road widening required to accommodate increased vehicle numbers? Apart from being vulnerable to entire removal, branch overhang is also vulnerable to damage by large high sided vehicles.

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