

Horsham District Council (HDC) submits the following comments on the further information/submissions received by Deadline 1

REP1-022 - Applicant's Post Hearing Submission – Issue Specific Hearing 1 Appendix 3 – Further information for Action Point 14 and 16 – Construction Accesses Category: Examination Documents Date: February 2024 Revision A

Comment: Horsham District Council (HDC) notes the Applicant's response has indicated barriers to a continuous construction haul road. However, it remains that temporary bridging of the watercourse (Cowfold Stream) is technically possible to enable a continuous construction haul road.

REP1-016 - Commitments Register (tracked changes) Date: February 2024 Revision B

Comment: HDC welcomes the Applicant's adoption of shoulder hours and the amendments to the Commitment Register to provide for firmer commitments on the following:

C-5 (HDD use)

C-7 (agricultural re-instatement)

C-17 and C-18 (use of prowl and water course crossing methodologies)

C-22 (construction hours and use of shoulder hours).

C-216 and C-135 (standoff distances for ancient woodland and watercourses)

C-115 (hedgerow notching)

C-263 (identification and use of noise mitigation)

REP1-011 - Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (tracked changes) Date: February 2024 Revision C

Comment: Whilst HDC welcomes the inclusion of a Communication Strategy (paras 8.4.28 – 8.4.30), the detail provided is considered to lack robustness, and HDC offers the following comments: -

- Paras 8.4.28 – 8.4.30 refer only to a minimum of necessary information that should (not could) be included. There appears to be no provision for emergency contact details or to whom affected communities contact for general advice or to raise concerns, for example.
- A longer notification period (currently, a minimum of only one month) would allow affected communities plenty of time to plan ahead, especially in regard to festive holiday breaks.
- In addition to the list of identified stakeholders, a commitment to mail drop all property addresses of affected communities would be an effective direct method to inform.

HDC considers the Communication Strategy to be an important method to ensure directly affected communities are aware and informed of potential disruption. Presently, paras 8.4.28 – 8.4.30 present a strategy that lacks sufficient robustness. Given this, the detail (scope, remit) of the Communication Strategy should be subject to agreement in consultation with the LPAs, via a standalone commitment or requirement separate to the OCMP.

HDC welcomes clarification that no new temporary construction bellmouth are required at Access 37 and 38, 45, and 55.