

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Arun District Council FAO: Jonny Cooper
FROM:	WSCC – Highways Authority
DATE:	2 February 2026
LOCATION:	136 Hawthorn Road Bognor Regis PO21 2BL
SUBJECT:	BR/222/25/HH Hard standing and new 3.4m vehicle crossover.
DATE OF SITE VISIT:	n/a
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice

I refer to your consultation in respect of the above planning application and would provide the following comments.

This application seeks the installation of a 3.4m dropped kerb crossover and hardstanding to create one parking bay. The site is located on Hawthorn Road, a C classified road subject to a speed restriction of 20 mph.

From inspection of WSCC mapping, there are no apparent visibility concerns with the proposed point of access on Hawthorne Road. The Local Highway Authority (LHA) has reviewed data supplied to WSCC by Sussex Police over a period of the last five years. Although there have been noted several recorded injury accidents within proximity of the site, there are no collisions relating to the use of frontage accesses onto Hawthorn Road or relating to any concerns with the road layout at this point. There is no evidence therefore to suggest that the proposed access in this location would exacerbate an existing safety concern.

The proposed access works will be subject to a licence obtained from WSCC and constructed to a specification as agreed with a WSCC Highway Area Engineer.

Any new vehicular access onto publicly maintained highway is subject to a license obtainable from WSCC Highways Authority. No works can be commenced on the highway prior to the license being obtained. The applicant is advised that in addition to obtaining planning permission that they must also obtain formal approval from the highway authority to carry out the site access works on the public highway. The granting of planning permission does not guarantee that a vehicle crossover licence shall be granted because the highway license process considers wider factors than are considered by the Highway Authority at planning stage.

The applicant is encouraged to ensure that their access proposals align with the WSCC guidance, WSCC Vehicular Cross Over: Application Criteria guidance, which can be found at the following link:

https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/20290/vco_guidance_notes.pdf

From inspection of the plans, the proposed hardstanding appears suitably sized to accommodate one off-street car parking space. A minimum of 2.4m x 4.8m is required to adequately contain an average sized vehicle. On-site turning is not achievable; therefore, a car will have to reverse either into or out of the site – however, this is not anticipated to give rise to a highway safety concern in this location, owing to the low-speed limit and good forward visibility for vehicles travelling along Hawthorn Road. The applicant should refrain from placing/planting items at the back edge of the footway in this location, which could restrict visibility of road users along Hawthorne Road.

The footway in this location is approx. 2m wide which allows pedestrians and vehicles additional opportunity to anticipate each other's movements at the access point.

Other properties along Hawthorn Road operate with frontage accesses and there are no known highway safety concerns with this practise.

In summary, the LHA does not consider that this proposal would have an unacceptable impact on highway safety or result in 'severe' cumulative impacts on the operation of the highway network, therefore is not contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework (paragraph 116), and that there are no transport grounds to resist the proposal.

If the LPA are minded to approve the application, the following informative should be applied:

Vehicle Crossover – Minor Highway Works

The applicant is advised that in addition to obtaining planning permission that they must also obtain formal approval from the highway authority to carry out the site access works on the public highway. The granting of planning permission does not guarantee that a vehicle crossover licence shall be granted because the highway license process considers wider factors than are considered by the Highway Authority at planning stage.

Additional information about the licence application process can be found at the following web page:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/highway-network-permits-and-licences/highway-licences/west-sussex-county-council-licences/dropped-kerbs-or-vehicle-crossovers-for-driveways/>

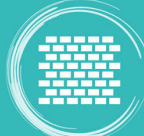
Jodie Wilkes
West Sussex County Council – Planning Services

PL- Consultation- WSCC Highways response

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 February 2026 11:09
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Response To Application Number BR/222/25/HH at 136 Hawthorn Road Bognor Regis PO21 2BL

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Apologies I note an error within my initial response which incorrectly labelled minimum parking space dimensions as 2.4m x 2.8m- whereby the actual dimensions are 2.4m x 4.8m.

Please could the attached response replace the initial report sent 02/02/26. All other details remain as previously stated.

Thank you.

Regards

Jodie Wilkes

Please do not reply directly to this email.

Any formal reconsultation on the application should be directed to [REDACTED] but the responding officer can be contacted directly via email if there are any questions relating to this response.

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