

SCANNED

13 NOV 2013



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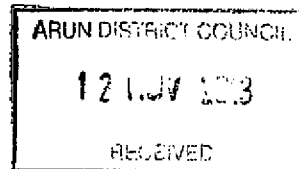
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Head of Planning
Arun Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
West Sussex

11th Nov 2013



Dear sir

Re Planning Application LU/303/13

Application by Barratt Homes for removal of condition 24 (bus access route).

The reason being given by Barratt Homes for requesting the removal of this condition is that "no bus operator wants to run buses along Courtwick Lane". I would like it put on record that this statement is incorrect as Compass Travel is very interested in running the current bus service 12 along this route to serve the proposed new Courtwick Estate.

We are currently in discussion with Barratt Homes, Littlehampton Town Council and West Sussex County Council about diverting the bus service along this route and consider this would be an essential part of the route to make a service to the new estate financially viable. By using this route we considered it would be feasible to serve the estate with the existing route 12 timetable and hence keep additional costs to a minimum. In our professional opinion if this opportunity is lost then the estate will have to be served in a loop off the by-pass which will increase the time taken and make it impossible to serve the estate with the existing service. It would then cost considerably more to provide a totally new service which is unlikely to ever be totally financial viable.

Our view is that a bus gate would be required in Courtwick Lane to prevent this access to the new estate being used by other vehicles. Whilst a small section of Courtwick Lane is rather narrow it is still quite accessible by buses and in any case there would only be an hourly service with a midibus which should not pose a problem or any disruption to local residents. An addition benefit is that houses along the length of Courtwick Lane (which I believe includes social housing of some kind?) would have a regular bus service into Littlehampton.

I would therefore like to ask the council NOT to remove this condition regarding bus access, pending further discussion with all the parties concerned and should be grateful therefore if you would treat this letter as an official objection to the removal of the said condition. If this is removed now then the opportunity will be lost for a bus service to the estate at minimal cost and it may prove impossible to find a workable alternative with the funds available.


Chris Chatfield
Managing Director