WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Adur & Worthing Councils FAO: Eve Hearsey
FROM:	WSCC – Highways Authority
DATE:	11 September 2025
LOCATION:	30 Riverside Road Shoreham-By-Sea BN43 5RB
SUBJECT:	AWDM/1110/25 Widening of the existing crossover and extending the dropped kerb to facilitate safer exiting of the property.
DATE OF SITE VISIT:	n/a
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice

This application has been dealt with in accordance with the Development Control Scheme protocol for small scale proposals.

This application is for the widening of existing VCO. The site is located on Riverside Road, a C-classified road subject to a speed limit of 30mph.

The proposed plans indicate that the existing VCO will be widened to a total width of 7.68m. Visibility at the proposed access appears to be sufficient for the anticipated road speeds in this location.

However, whilst the LHA would not raise any highway safety concerns to the proposal to widen the existing VCO; the crossover works would be subject to a licence from the Area Engineer and must be constructed to a specification agreed with them. The applicant should be aware that in accordance with the Area Engineer policy, the maximum permitted width for a VCO is 6.4m. The LPA may wish to request details of a revised VCO width from the applicant at this stage, to prevent a situation whereby a VCO approved at the planning stage cannot be implemented.

Conclusion
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. However, as above, the LPA may wish to request that the applicant revise the proposed VCO width.

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

Informative
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/

Nicola Elliott
West Sussex County Council – Planning Services