West Sussex Local Access Forum

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Email to: ActiveTravel@westsussex.gov.uk 5 June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Upper Shoreham Active Travel Improvements consultation

I am responding to the above consultation on behalf of West Sussex Local Access Forum (WSLAF). We welcome the opportunity to comment on these proposals.

West Sussex Local Access Forum (WSLAF) is an independent advisory body, established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to give access advice to local authorities, statutory organisations and non-government organisations. In giving that advice, the Forum's main objective is to ensure the existing network of public rights of way (prows), as well as the wider access network, is protected and where possible enhanced. The Forum has a balanced membership of knowledgeable and experienced users (walkers, cyclists, horse riders and carriage drivers), landowners and other interests (including conservation, disabled access, landscape). For further information about the Forum please visit www.wslaf.org.

These proposals relate mainly to active travel routes, likely to be used for commuting (especially schools) or other functional purposes, rather than for leisure use. They do not therefore fall directly into WSLAF's remit.

However, WSLAF supports any measures which will increase the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, particularly (as there are several schools in the area) in this case the safety of young people walking or cycling to school.

We note also that Route 332 connects with the bridleway going northwards from New Barn Road and Slonk Hill Farm. This is a useful PROW for people coming from Shoreham and enables the use of public transport to access the Downs, which WSLAF strongly supports. The measures proposed here will contribute to the safety of the road routes from the town up to the Downs, for users such as cyclists riding on roads from Shoreham (or Southwick - both have stations), or walkers coming from either station, or a bus route, in order to join the PROW Downs network.

This letter constitutes formal advice from the West Sussex Local Access Forum. West Sussex County Council is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this Local Access Forum in carrying out its functions.

The Forum looks forward to being updated on progress on the consultation, and to future involvement regarding NMU matters.

Yours sincerely

Jane Noble, Forum Officer West Sussex Local Access Forum

Copy for information to: All WSLAF members