

West Sussex Local Access Forum

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Sent by email to: A259B2L@wsp.com

Dear Sirs

A259 Bognor to Littlehampton

I am responding to the above consultations on behalf of West Sussex Local Access Forum (WSLAF).

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.

The Forum supports and welcomes all of the proposals which will benefit all users who wish to cross this section of the A259. Increased traffic flows on all roads have made crossing of these routes more difficult in recent years and there are significant barriers to access by Non-Motorised users (NMUs).

We have made more specific comments on two of the Proposals as follows:

Proposal 2 - PRow Footpaths 166 and 165

The current 'dog-leg' crossing of the A259 which links these two footpaths is difficult and dangerous for users and a safer crossing is required. We support this proposal.

Proposal 5 - Church Lane Roundabout

This proposal includes much needed benefits for equestrians as well as walkers and cyclists. Riders whose horses are stabled north of the A259 have to cross the road to access permitted riding on the beach via Byway 197 or Climping Street, but doing this has become very dangerous. The realignment of Church Lane and proposal to make the existing southern part of the Lane multi-user, for walking, cycling and horse riding, with a new Pegasus crossing over the A259, will make this route safe and easy for all vulnerable road users. We support this proposal.

Additionally, however we consider that equestrians be allowed to use the currently signed walk and cycle route along the south side of the A259 (where the proposal is to reduce the speed limit to 40mph) between Crookthorne Lane and Climping Street, which will take them off the road and enable a circular route. Out of the summer tourist season (and early or late in the day) it is understood the Street is quiet and easy to use. This would effectively make this route multi-user.

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.

Thank you for considering WSLAF's comments. Members look forward to being updated on progress on this matter and would welcome being consulted in the future on any similar matters that may impact on access.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Noble', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Jane Noble, Forum Officer
West Sussex Local Access Forum

Copy for information to: All WSLAF members