

Your ref:

Our ref: 332110699/Planning Response/HG

23 October 2023

Wealden District Council
Council Offices
Vicarage Lane
Hailsham
BN27 2AX

Attention of: Mr. R.Berwick

Dear Mr. Berwick

RE: Wealden Sports Hub – Application WD/2023/2100/DC

Application Response

This application response, on transport matters, is made by Stantec on behalf of Hertfordshire Holdings LTD (HH).

HH's landholding is adjacent to the proposed Sports Hub site, to the south of the A271.

HH supports the overall Sports Hub proposals in principle. This response provides further comments on transport matters associated with the application, with a focus on the accessibility of the site by non-car modes.

Stantec provided transport advice and reports in support of HH's recent planning application for Land South of the A271 and east of the A22, Lower Horsebridge, with reference WD/2022/3222/MAO. This work has provided Stantec with excellent knowledge of the local transport situation, conditions and proposals.

Consultee Responses

It is noted that an application response has not yet been made by the local highway authority (ESCC). However, a response was received from Active Travel England (ATE) dated 19th September 2023. This recommends a "Deferral" until further information has been provided.

Of note:

- ATE suggests that the width of the footway along the southern side of the A271 (main access point for pedestrians and cyclists to the new sports facilities) should be increased to 3.0m. This is a good suggestion and ties in with proposals put forward in HH's recent planning application.
- ATE, although not set up to comment on public transport (bus) provision, does note a lack of bus shelters and the need for safe walking and crossing routes to and from the Sports Hub site. It is noted that suggestions for enhancements, including new bus stops/shelters on the A271 in this location, have been put forward in HH's recent planning application.

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Comments

We agree with the general ATE summary that accessibility and connectivity for the Sports Hub through 'active travel' can be improved. It is further noted that the Sports Hub applicant has stated that its bus strategy is "to be developed".

As the Wealden Sports Hub and the HH site and proposed development are neighbours, and both located on the A271, we propose that co-operation is beneficial for both parties.

HH, as part of its planning application, is proposing to improve and widen the footway along the Horsebridge Road to 3m so it can be used as a shared pedestrian and cycling path, connecting to the Boship roundabout. HH has also committed to improve the existing bus stops.

It may be feasible to provide a pair of new bus stops (as indicated in concept on the attached drawing). This is part of a sustainable transport strategy for the HH site and could also provide a significant benefit to the Wealden Sports Hub.

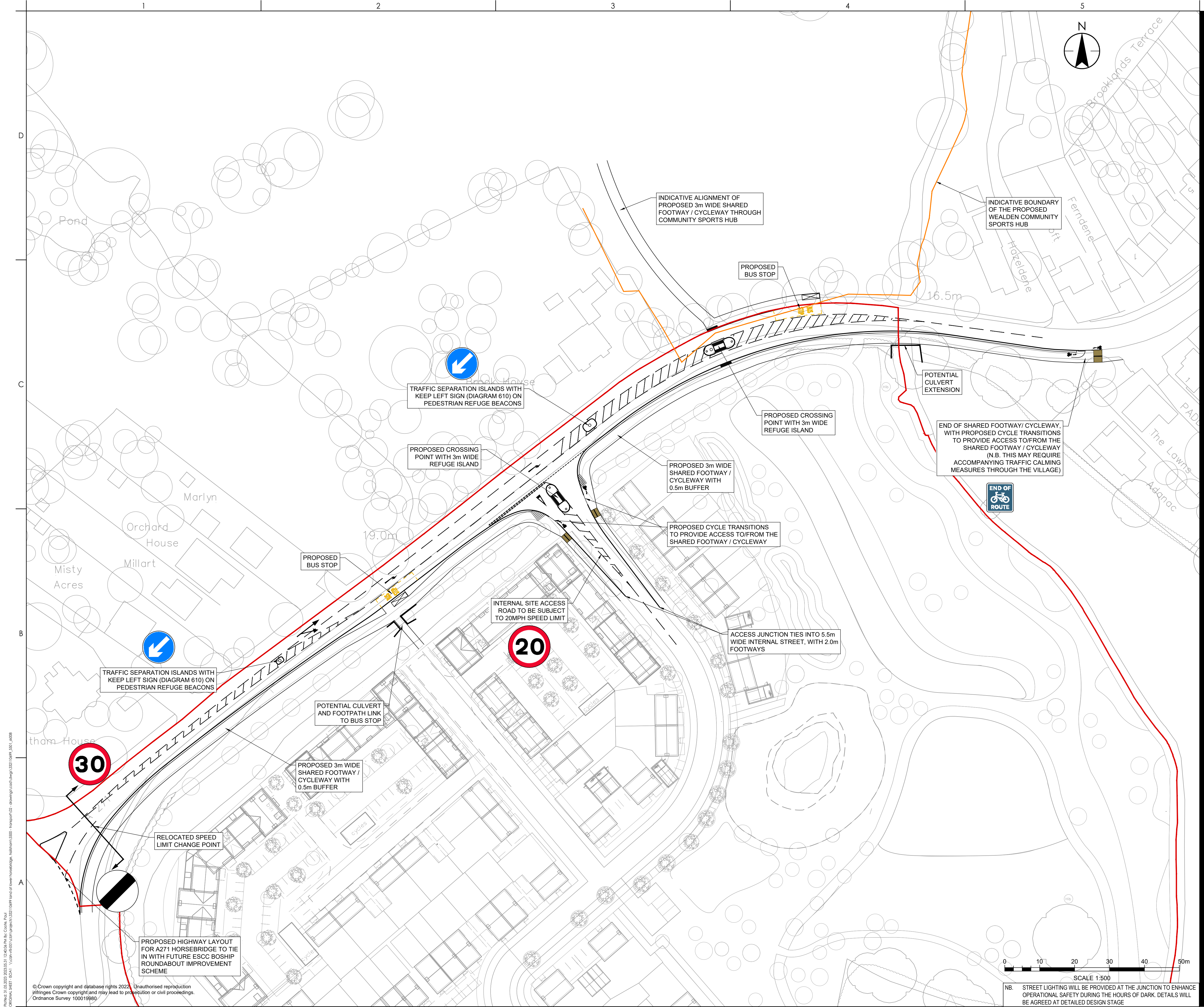
At this point HH wishes to confirm its willingness to work with the applicant towards a joint scheme to improve sustainable transport.

Yours sincerely,



cc ESCC – 

enclosed



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KEY:

- INDICATIVE SITE BOUNDARY
- INDICATIVE BOUNDARY OF THE PROPOSED WEALDEN COMMUNITY SPORTS HUB

P01	First Issue	PC	HG	2023.05.31
Issued/Revision		By	Appd	YYYY.MM.DD
		REM	REM	MN
		Dwn.	Dsgn.	Chkd.
				2023.05.31
				YYYY.MM.DD

Issue Status

FOR PLANNING

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Client/Project
HERTFORDSHIRE HOLDING LTD

LAND AT LOWER HORSEBRIDGE

HAILSHAM, UNITED KINGDOM

Title
SITE ACCESS LAYOUT WITH INDICATIVE BUS STOP PROVISION

Project No. 332110699	Scale 1:500
Revision P01	Drawing No. 332110699_5501_SK008

Project: 31.05.2023/202305.31 12:40:08 PM By: Code: P01
Drawing: 332110699_5501_SK008
Version: 1.0
Scale: 1:500
Date: 2023.05.31
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