

Horsham Local Plan Examination

WSCC Hearing Statement

September 2026

1. This hearing statement has been prepared by officers on behalf of West Sussex County Council in its role as Local Highway Authority.

Matter 5: The spatial strategy and site selection

2. Transport evidence base work for the Plan, including the assessment of additional sites introduced through main modifications, has largely been completed and accepted by the County Council. The Horsham Local Plan Transport Assessment (Document Ref: HDCJB15b) confirms that there will be no severe residual capacity impacts to highway network operations following the delivery of a sustainable transport strategy and targeted highways mitigation improvements.
3. In its representation, the County Council has objected due to a lack of evidence on safety issues. The Highway Safety Study (HSS) is currently in progress, but near to completion. At the time of writing this hearing statement, the County Council has seen and commented on a draft HSS requesting further assessment of the A23 interchanges at Hickstead (A2300), Sayers Common (B2118), Muddleswood (B2117) and Pyecombe North (A281) for possible safety issues resulting from the proposed Henfield site allocations HNF2 and HNF3 for a combined total of 690 dwellings (MM233). The County Council accepts the recommendations of the draft HSS and accepts that, subject to the outcome of the remaining assessments and delivery of the sustainable transport strategy and highways mitigation improvements, there will be no severe safety impacts on the local highway network. The County Council's soundness objection regarding this matter would be resolved, subject to the completion of this evidence.

24 September 2026