

Jane Noble
Officer to the Forum
Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex
(01243) 756863 (Tel)
(01243) 777232 (Fax)
jane.noble@westsussex.gov.uk
www.westsussex.gov.uk/cafws

**Countryside
Access Forum
for
West Sussex**

The Grange
Tower Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1RH
(01243) 777100

Our reference: JN/2009.4

Claire Potts
Team Leader, Minerals and Waste Policy
County Development Division
West Sussex County Council
County Hall
Tower Street
Chichester
West Sussex PO19 1RG

9th April 2009

Dear Claire

West Sussex County Council Minerals & Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document

I am responding to the above consultations on behalf of Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex (CAFWS).

CAFWS is an **independent statutory advisory body** established under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 to give advice on countryside access matters. It 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).

This letter constitutes formal advice from the Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex. 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 forum in carrying out its functions.

CAFWS would like to make some comments in particular in relation to Background Paper 7 - Development Management.

The many good references to public rights of way and access in the document are welcomed. However there is a concern that the real and negative effects that additional vehicle movements generated by such development will have on local roads are not taken sufficiently into consideration, and particularly the effects on non-motorised users (walkers, cyclists, horse riders and carriage drivers in particular), who have to use sections of rural roads to link rights of way or cross them to connect routes. Research for the West Sussex Rights of Way Improvement Plan – a strategic Framework (a copy of has been forwarded to you separately and can also be viewed at <http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/rowip>) has shown safety on roads is a major concern to many users of the rights of way network throughout the county. It would be useful if some reference to this document could be made.

It would also be useful if reference could be made to CAFWS in both Chapter 7 – Public Amenity and Health, and Chapter 15 – Restoration and Aftercare.

Thank you for considering these comments and please feel free to contact me if you feel CAFWS could be of assistance or offer advice on any matters relevant to countryside access.

Yours sincerely

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

Jane Noble
Forum Officer, Countryside Access Forum for West Sussex
<http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/cafws>

Copy for information to:

Peter Brown – Chairman, CAFWS
Glynn Jones – Vice-Chairman, CAFWS
All members of CAFWS
Craig Bowdery – Secretary to the Forum
Christine Luff – WSCC Right of Way Team
Leader

Lisa Creaye-Griffin – WSCC Rural Operations
Group Manager
Deborah Urquhart – WSCC Cabinet Member for
Environment & Economy