

**1. Draft Walking and Cycling Strategy for West Sussex 2016 – 2026**

- 1.1 WSCC has considered the responses from the public consultation on the draft Walking and Cycling Strategy for West Sussex 2016 – 2026 (WCS). In general respondents were in broad agreement with the draft WCS and the associated prioritised list of potential schemes. Key issues raised included:
- The need to consider all non-motorised users
  - The need for more/improved walking and cycling infrastructures
  - The need to maintain / improve existing walking and cycling infrastructure
  - The need for continuous routes segregated from traffic
  - Some concerns in relation to shared use paths
  - Links with public transport
  - Absence of committed funding and targets
  - The need to local consultation in relation to any schemes that may be progressed
- 1.2 The WCS has been reviewed and revised in light of the responses received. The document has been endorsed by the Environmental and Community Services Select Committee (ECSSC) at its meeting on 8 July 2016, although ECSSC determined a further recommendation to be considered by the Cabinet Member which requested further work in respect of design standards, network connectivity and funding opportunities (full papers can be viewed on the WSCC website: [westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/committees-and-decision-making/select-scrutiny-committees/environmental-and-community-services-select-committee/#agendas-and-minutes](http://westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/committees-and-decision-making/select-scrutiny-committees/environmental-and-community-services-select-committee/#agendas-and-minutes)). The next step will be for the WCS to be considered by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport for formal adoption.

**2. A27 Improvements – Highways England**

- 2.1 Highways England (HE) is planning improvements to the A27 in three locations in West Sussex. The Consultation for the Chichester improvements will run from 14 July 2016 to 22 September 2016. HE will be holding 14 public exhibitions where people can find out more about the proposals. All the materials available at the exhibitions as well as the survey is available on the HE website: [www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a27-chichester-improvement](http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a27-chichester-improvement).
- 2.2 Consultation on the Worthing and Lancing Improvements and Arundel Improvements is expected Spring 2017. Further details can be found on the HE website [www.highways.gov.uk/roads](http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads).

**3. West Sussex County Council Survey - What Matters To You 2016**

- 3.1 West Sussex County Council provides more than £500 million of services to over 820,000 residents, 365 days a year. There are significant challenges ahead, especially around how WSCC pays for services, and it is vital its focus reflects what West Sussex residents want and need. From 5 July until 30 August, we are asking you to give us your views on what matters to you. The results will feed into how we plan our work and spend your money over the next two years. [Take part in WSCC's What Matters To You 2016 survey.](#)

#### **4. Welcome to West Sussex - Come and Explore the Beautiful Outdoors**

- 4.1 The second phase of West Sussex County Council's Beautiful Outdoors campaign, promoting West Sussex as a short break destination for those interested in fitness and health, launched on 16 May 2016. The digital campaign is aimed at 25 to 45-year-olds from London and the South East with a focus on walking, cycling and outdoor pursuits, including water sports. The website, [West Sussex Weekends](#), has been given a facelift and now includes new 'inspire me' stories from walkers, cyclists and water sports enthusiasts, features on active outdoor events, great places to sample local food and drink and some of the accommodation on offer - all you need to plan your trip. A local campaign to promote the West Sussex coast and countryside to residents will also run this summer in the local press, in WSCC's Taste West Sussex magazine and on social media and other digital channels.

#### **5. WSCC New Chief Executive for West Sussex County Council**

- 5.1 Nathan Elvery started in post on 27th June as West Sussex County Council's new Chief Executive. He joins WSCC from Crawley Borough Council.

#### **6. East Sussex consultations – closing date 27/7/16**

- 6.1 East Sussex County Council (ESCC) is consulting on its plans on its future plan for public rights of way and countryside sites. ESCC manages 2,000 miles of public rights of way and ten countryside sites across East Sussex. This consultation is open until 29 July 2016. Further details at: [consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/shaping-the-future-of-our-countryside-access](http://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/economy-transport-environment/shaping-the-future-of-our-countryside-access)

#### **7. New partnership for NFU and The Kennel Club**

- 7.1 The NFU has joined forces with The Kennel Club to make countryside dog walks safer and more stress free for both pet dogs and farm animals, by creating new footpath signs which encourage responsible dog ownership.
- 7.2 The signs, which farmers can display on fences and gateposts were launched at the world's biggest dog event, Crufts. This new partnership aims to help dog owners enjoy the UK's landscapes while avoiding causing unintentional injury or distress to sheep and cattle. The signs reinforce the year-round need to keep dogs on leads around livestock and emphasise that it is safer to release a dog if threatened by inquisitive cattle, so that walkers and dogs can get to safety separately. Visit the NFU website for more details: [www.nfuonline.com/back-british-farming/love-your-countryside/new-partnership-for-nfu-and-the-kennel-club/](http://www.nfuonline.com/back-british-farming/love-your-countryside/new-partnership-for-nfu-and-the-kennel-club/)

#### **8. News from the South Downs**

- 8.1 **Iping Common** – Following a public inquiry, which considered evidence submitted by both the SDNPA and the South Downs Local Access Forum, the Inspector's decision was in favour of fencing to facilitate conservation grazing on the Common.
- 8.2 **Horse riding leaflet** - The South Downs National Park, working in partnership with the British Horse Society, has recently published its new [Horse Riding in the South Downs National Park](#) leaflet. The leaflet promotes responsible horse riding in the South Downs and includes a map identifying

key horse box parking locations which give easy access to bridleways, and in particular the South Downs Way.

- 8.3 **Easy access leaflets** - Two new 'Miles Without Stiles' leaflets are now available on the South Downs National Park's website. The new [Mill Hill leaflet](#) promotes the easy access trail at on Mill Hill which provides spectacular views over the Adur Valley. The [Seven Sisters trail](#) promotes the route from the Seven Sisters Country Park along the easy access path next to the River Cuckmere. Both leaflets are currently available to download from the 'Walking' page of the SDNP website [here](#).

## 9. WSCC Rights of Way (ROW) Committee

- 9.1 The previous meeting of the ROW Committee was held on 7 June 2016. All papers can be found [www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/committees-and-decision-making/statutory-committees/rights-of-way-committee](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/about-the-council/how-the-council-works/committees-and-decision-making/statutory-committees/rights-of-way-committee). Items that may be of interest to WSLAF include:

- **Town or Village Greens** - applications to register land as town or village green (TVG) at Selsey (The Oval Field) and Steyning (Abbey Road Open Space) were approved and the land in both cases will be added to the formal register as TVG.
- **Officer Delegation** - The Committee approved a report that recommended increased officer delegation to extend to the determination of certain Definitive Map Modification Order (DMMO) and TVG applications (i.e. where no significant evidence in conflict has been received). The previous position was that all applications went to committee. Officer delegation regarding certain diversion/extinguishment applications has been in place for some time.

## 10. WSLAF Future Meetings

- 10.1 All meetings will start at 10.30am (tea/coffee at 10.15am) and are followed by lunch for members and speakers. Dates, venues and items in italics are suggestions to be confirmed at the meeting.

Date	Venue	Proposed Topic / Speaker to include
Wed 19/10/16	Chichester	CAMS Web demo + Network Rail
Wed 25/1/17	Horsham	<i>To be decided by Forum</i>

Other suggested speakers: Forestry Commission, Highways Agency, Network Rail, WSCC Officer to explain Infrastructure Project delivery and role of CLCs.

## 11. Neighbouring LAFs

- 11.1 South Downs Local Access Forum (SDLAF)

The next meetings of the SDLAF are:

- 20 July 2016 – South Downs Centre, Midhurst
  - 21 October 2016 – South Downs Centre, Midhurst
- <http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/get-involved/local-access-forum>.

WSLAF link member            Tricia Butcher / Glynn Jones

- 11.2 Brighton & Hove Local Access Forum

<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1238738>

- 11.3 East Sussex Local Access Forum  
<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/countryside/rightsofway/localaccessforum/default.htm>
- 11.4 Hampshire Countryside Access Forum (HCAF)  
<http://www.countrysideaccessforum.hants.org.uk>
- 11.5 Surrey Local Access Forum (SLAF)  
<http://new.surreycc.gov.uk/environment-housing-and-planning/countryside/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/surrey-countryside-access-forum>

*Jane Noble, Forum Officer*