A259 Hove to Portslade Active Travel Scheme Consultation – West Sussex County Council response, July 2025

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the A259 Hove to Portslade active travel scheme consultation. These comments have been compiled by officers on behalf of the County Council.

We welcome the consultation on the A259 Hove to Portslade active travel scheme which would complement similar proposals the County Council is developing for the A259 between Shoreham and the Brighton & Hove boundary which are identified as a priority scheme within the West Sussex Transport Plan 2022-2036. The County Council is now progressing the preliminary design stage of the Shoreham scheme that will allow more detailed proposals to be discussed with local stakeholders and put the scheme in a position to apply for the grant funding that will be needed to deliver the scheme. Eventual completion of both schemes would complete a high quality active travel route between Shoreham and Brighton and link to existing active travel facilities towards Worthing.

With regard to the Hove to Portslade proposals there are two specific comments that we would like to highlight.

The published materials do not appear to include details of the traffic impacts on junctions at A293 Church Road and B2194 Boundary Road. We recognise that there are significant highway space constraints in this area requiring reallocation of highway space in order to cater for the active travel facilities, however it is noted that the stretch of the A259 between these junctions caters for approximately 15 bus services per hour in each direction as well as National Express coach services. Information should be made available about expected junction capacity impacts, in particular on bus services as well as bus stop space, so that these can be understood and any mitigations considered to manage impacts.

It is also noted that there appear to be areas of the scheme where the westbound A259 carriageway space is reduced such that this could limit options to keep a single traffic lane open during maintenance or utilities works, potentially requiring more complex traffic management arrangements. This could result in wider traffic implications for parallel routes and potential cross-boundary traffic flow impacts. There are two areas of the scheme where this appears to be an issue – at the A259/Wharf Road junction and immediately west of here, as well as between Fourth Avenue and A2023 Hove Street. Maintenance works in the westbound carriageway could require frequent diversions or use of temporary traffic lights, so the design should consider ways to minimise the potential for future disruption during maintenance activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposals.