



Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department

Your Ref: DM/26/1228

Our Ref: LM/MID/26/03A

Date: 21st May 2026

Contact Name: Lee Melbourne

Dear Ms Williams,

RE: Land West of London Road Handcross West Sussex

Thank you for your correspondence of the 20th of May 2026, advising me of an outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for access) for the erection of up to 55 dwellings, including affordable homes, together with green and blue infrastructure, vehicular access from London Road, pedestrian/cycle access from London Road, the provision of utility services structures and the demolition of an existing agricultural building at the above location, for which you seek advice from a crime prevention viewpoint.

The National Planning Policy Framework demonstrates the government's aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places which are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear, and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

The level of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Mid Sussex district is below average when compared with the rest of Sussex, as indicated within Police.uk however, additional measures to mitigate against any identified local crime trends and site-specific requirements should always be considered.

Given that this outline application is only to determine the means of access and to seek approval in principle I have no detailed comments to make at this stage.

I would ask you to note that Sussex Police is now exploring the impact of growth on the provision of policing infrastructure over the coming years and further comment on this application may be made by our Joint Commercial Planning Manager.

Ms Williams
Planning Officer
Planning Services Division
Mid Sussex District Council

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to offer comments in response.

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 heightens the importance of taking crime prevention into account when planning decisions are made. Section 17 of the Act places a clear duty on both police and local authorities to exercise their various functions with due regard to the likely effect on the prevention of crime and disorder. You are asked to accord due weight to the advice offered in this letter which would demonstrate your authority's commitment to work in partnership and comply with the spirit of The Crime & Disorder Act.

Yours sincerely

Miss Lee A Melbourne
Designing Out Crime Officer
Local Policing Service Improvement & Engagement Department
Sussex Police Headquarters