

**From:** planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 June 2026 21:21:19 UTC+01:00  
**To:** "Caroline Grist" <caroline.grist@midsussex.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application  
DM/26/1315

## Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 16/06/2026 9:21 PM.

### Application Summary

|               |                                                                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address:      | Land West Of Gatesmead Wickham Way Haywards Heath West Sussex                 |
| Proposal:     | Proposed 49 new homes together with open space and associated infrastructure. |
| Case Officer: | Caroline Grist                                                                |

[Click for further information](#)

### Customer Details

|          |                             |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| Address: | 28 Gatesmead Haywards Heath |
|----------|-----------------------------|

### Comments Details

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Commenter Type:      | Neighbour or general public                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Stance:              | Customer objects to the Planning Application                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Reasons for comment: |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Comments:            | <p>I write as a resident of Gatesmead to formally object to the above planning application. My objections are set out below under three principal headings: highway and parking infrastructure, the character and appearance of the area, and environmental impact.</p> <p>1. Highway Infrastructure and Parking</p> <p>Gatesmead was originally designed and constructed as a cul-de-sac to serve a modest development of 38 homes. It was never</p> |

intended to accommodate the volume of traffic that significantly larger communities generate. Without any corresponding improvements to the road infrastructure, the estate has already been extended to serve in excess of 90 properties - more than double its original intended capacity.

The proposed addition of a further 49 dwellings would increase the residential load on this single access road to approximately 140 households - nearly four times the capacity for which it was designed. This would result in:

- Significant increases in vehicle movements throughout the day and night;
- Dangerous levels of on-street parking, blocking access for emergency vehicles;
- Increased risk of accidents at the junction and along the single-access route;
- Worsening conditions for pedestrians, cyclists and children travelling to school.

No highway improvements have been made to support the previous expansion of the estate. There is no justification for approving a further 49 homes in the absence of a robust and fully funded transport mitigation plan.

## 2. Character and Appearance of the Area, and Strain on Local Amenities

The cumulative growth of the Gatesmead estate has already fundamentally altered its character from an intimate cul-de-sac to a large residential development. A further 49 homes would compound this change to an unacceptable degree, creating an overdeveloped site out of proportion with the surrounding area and with no regard to the quality of life of existing residents.

I am also deeply concerned about the capacity of local services and infrastructure to absorb additional residents. GP surgeries, dental practices and schools in the Haywards Heath area are already operating at or beyond capacity. Approving further large-scale housing without securing corresponding investment in healthcare and education provision would place an unsustainable burden on services that are already overstretched and cause real harm to all residents - new and existing alike.

## 3. Environmental Impact and Loss of Green Space

The land to the west of Gatesmead is an established and valued green space that provides important ecological and recreational functions for the local community. It is home to a range of wildlife, including birds (including schedule 1 species like Redwing) rabbits and deer, and forms part of a wider green corridor that supports biodiversity in the area.

---

The site is also well used by local walkers, runners, cyclists and dog owners as informal open space. Its loss would remove a cherished amenity from the community and would be contrary to the growing recognition of the health and wellbeing benefits that accessible green space provides to urban and suburban residents.

Development of this land would also cause direct harm to local wildlife through habitat destruction and increased disturbance. I urge the Council to consider whether sufficient ecological surveys have been conducted and whether the proposed development is compliant with national planning policy on the protection of biodiversity.

#### Conclusion

For the reasons set out above, I strongly urge Mid Sussex District Council to refuse planning application DM/26/1315. The proposed development would place an unacceptable strain on road infrastructure that was never designed for this volume of traffic, overwhelm already overstretched local services, harm the character and appearance of the neighbourhood, and cause irreversible damage to a valued natural green space.

I respectfully request that this letter be formally registered as a representation against the application and that my objections be fully considered by the planning committee.

---

Kind regards