Sarah Valentine

From: [redacted]
Sent: 02 March 2025 00:03
To: planninginfo
Subject: Objection to Development Proposals (DM/25/0014, DM/25/0015, DM/25/0016, DM/25/0017)

[redacted]

Mid Sussex District Council Planning Department,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed development of 350 new homes in Crawley Down, as outlined in the planning applications DM/25/0014, DM/25/0015, DM/25/0016, and DM/25/0017. As a resident, I have serious concerns about the negative impact these developments will have on our community, local infrastructure, and environment.

1. Strain on Local Infrastructure

The existing infrastructure in our village is already stretched to its limits, and the proposed development will exacerbate this strain. The roads are not equipped to handle the significant increase in traffic that 350 new homes would bring. Increased congestion, road safety issues, and potential parking problems are all concerns, especially in the village.

Our public transport options are also limited, and the additional population could overwhelm current services, with no clear plans in place to expand transport capacity to accommodate the influx.

2. Pressure on Healthcare Services

The local GP surgery is already struggling to provide timely appointments to current residents. Introducing hundreds of

new households will place even more pressure on the local healthcare system, leading to longer waiting times and potentially reduced access to essential medical services. I am deeply concerned about the community's ability to receive adequate healthcare if this development proceeds.

3. Impact on Education and School Capacity

The schools in the area are already nearing capacity, and there are no immediate plans to expand educational facilities to accommodate the large number of children that will likely come with this development. Overcrowded schools could lead to diminished educational standards, and many local families may be forced to send their children to schools outside the village, increasing travel distances and adding to the burden on local roads.

4. Environmental and Wildlife Concerns

Our village enjoys valuable green spaces and supports diverse wildlife, which will be severely affected by such a large-scale development. The proposed site is home to a variety of wildlife, and the loss of habitats would have a damaging effect on the local ecosystem. Additionally, there are concerns about the increased risk of flooding due to the loss of natural drainage areas.

5. Pressure on Local Shops and Services

The current local amenities, such as shops and services, are already limited in capacity. An increase in the village population of this magnitude would overburden these services, reducing the quality and availability of resources for existing residents. While developers may argue that the new population will boost local businesses, the immediate pressure on already overstretched services will create difficulties for both current and new residents.

6. Impact on Village Character and Community

One of the most concerning aspects of this development is the potential impact on the character of our village. The addition of 350 new homes will fundamentally change the rural, close-knit nature of our community. A development of this scale threatens the village identity and will make it difficult for new and existing residents to maintain the sense of community that has made our Crawley Down such a desirable place to live.

7. Sustainability and Long-term Planning

I am also concerned that this development does not appear to prioritize sustainable planning or infrastructure. There are no clear provisions for renewable energy or enhancements to public transport, and the development will contribute to environmental degradation rather than supporting the village future as a sustainable and thriving community.

8. Legal and Procedural Concerns

I would also like to question whether this development is in line with the village Local Development Plan and other relevant planning policies. It appears that this large-scale development contradicts the village intended growth strategy and does not align with the long-term needs of our community.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the council to reject the planning applications DM/25/0014, DM/25/0015, DM/25/0016, and DM/25/0017. I believe that there are more appropriate ways to address housing needs in the area without imposing such a significant burden on our village infrastructure, environment, and quality of life.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my objections. I trust that the council will take these concerns into account and act in the best interests of our community.

Kind regards

Sent from my iPad