

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 June 2026 16:55:45 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 06/06/2026 4:55 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 Fairfield Way Haywards Heath
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	We wish to object to the above application for 49 new dwellings on the open fields off Old Wickham Lane. The proposed development would result in the permanent loss of an important area of open countryside that is well used by residents, particularly dog walkers and families. This field forms part of the remaining green buffer between Haywards Heath and surrounding areas, contributing to the rural character of the region. The site is currently open grassland supporting local

wildlife. Development would result in habitat loss, reduced biodiversity and increased surface water runoff. There is countrywide emphasis on the importance of protecting local green spaces and preventing urban sprawl.

Old Wickham Lane and the surrounding roads are already heavily congested, particularly at peak times. Traffic regularly becomes gridlocked on the Balcombe Road, and additional vehicle movements from 49 new homes would significantly worsen this as new residents leave Haywards Heath by vehicle.

The application does not adequately demonstrate that the local road network can safely or sustainably accommodate the increased traffic. The narrow nature of nearby roads, limited visibility and existing bottlenecks raise serious concerns about highway safety, emergency vehicle access, increased journey times and air quality.

Local primary (Harlands) and secondary schools (Oathall and Warden Park) are already operating at or near capacity. The addition of 49 homes, which are likely to include family housing would place further pressure on school places.

Residents already experience frequent issues with water supply, sewage capacity, and other infrastructure failures in this part of Haywards Heath. Burst pipes, leaks and road closures are becoming increasingly common. Adding 49 new homes would place further strain on an already fragile system. Southern Water has repeatedly acknowledged capacity issues in the region and without guaranteed upgrades, this development risks worsening sewage overflows, flooding, water pressure problems and disruption from emergency repairs.

Mid Sussex has already delivered significant housing in recent years, particularly in and around Haywards Heath. There is no clear evidence that this specific site is required to meet local housing need, especially when more sustainable brownfield options exist elsewhere. We request that Mid Sussex District Council refuse planning application DM/26/1315.

Kind regards