

From: planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk <planninginfo@midsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 19 March 2025 12:55:37 UTC+00:00
To: "Katherine Williams" <katherine.williams@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Mid Sussex DC - Online Register - Comments for Planning Application
DM/25/0396

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 19/03/2025 12:55 PM.

Application Summary

Address:	Queen Victoria Hospital Holtye Road East Grinstead West Sussex RH19 3DZ
Proposal:	Proposed development of a single storey Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) at the existing Queen Victoria Hospital with associated car and cycle parking, landscaping and ancillary development.
Case Officer:	Katherine Williams

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Address:	1 Lancaster Drive East Grinstead
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Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour or general public
Stance:	Customer made comments neither objecting to or supporting the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	
Comments:	Whilst supportive of the development of the CDC we do have concerns over the potential siting of the same. We understand that the old tennis court site was unsuitable as there was not enough space but it does feel that there could be alternative sites within the main area of the hospital that could be utilised rather than taking away an aesthetically pleasing and environmentally

supportive site in front of the well loved and recognised old hospital frontage. That said if MSDC are minded to approve we would ask that as much planting is used as possible to soften the outline and that the existing hedge is maintained at its current (or higher) height to provide both a visual and acoustic buffer.

Our main concern around the development is the increased traffic flow for which there appears to be no provision. We do not agree with the WSCC report that the "likely parking should be workable" given that the existing car parking arrangements are insufficient with considerable overflow onto the surrounding roads of both staff and general public. Some of this parking is sensible and on allowed public roads is not an issue to us. What we have regularly seen is anti social and dangerous parking across driveways, on double yellow lines and on junctions which carries on with impunity as there are few, if any, warden patrols to check/manage or control. From our own experience we regularly have passenger transport vehicles/ambulances as well as taxis and private cars parking across our driveway which causes considerable inconvenience. Just recently the parking was so bad on the Quarry Estate that a 400 bus service was unable to access the roads to get to the turnaround point. We know this as their solution was to park the bus across our driveway delaying our departure for work. We have even had people knock on our door asking to use our parking as they will miss an appointment as the car park is full to overflowing as are the side streets with cars circling looking for anywhere to park. None of this supports the conjecture that the parking is manageable.

At a recent meeting it was acknowledged by QVH that the CDC could result in several hundred extra journeys a month as a result of the CDC but that whilst amendments to parking on site are under consideration nothing is currently being planned. We would contend that the parking issue should be considered alongside the development of any new building work not as an afterthought. The additional spaces created on the old tennis courts only replace those removed so give no extra capacity. We disagree with WSCC that the QVH is well served by public transport. Currently public transport is limited to 2 buses an hour (within 5 minutes of each other) with none coming from the Tunbridge Wells side of East Grinstead (other than Lingfield) making an increase in car journeys inevitable which does not seem a particularly environmentally sustainable approach.

We know, anecdotally, that the QVH staff themselves have expressed concern entering and exiting the hospital site due to the excessive speed of vehicles and we have ourselves witnessed a number of close calls already this year. Again, we do not agree with the WSCC report and feel that some form of speed reduction or traffic calming would only benefit visitors to the site.

Whilst overall supportive of the development of the CDC we are concerned that the issue of parking has not been considered and

instead has been left for the local residents to continue to bear the inconvenience of the lack of car parking facilities on the QVH which feels somewhat disingenuous. The QVH has plenty of spare space that could be utilised for this purpose which would allow all local residents the right to peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Kind regards