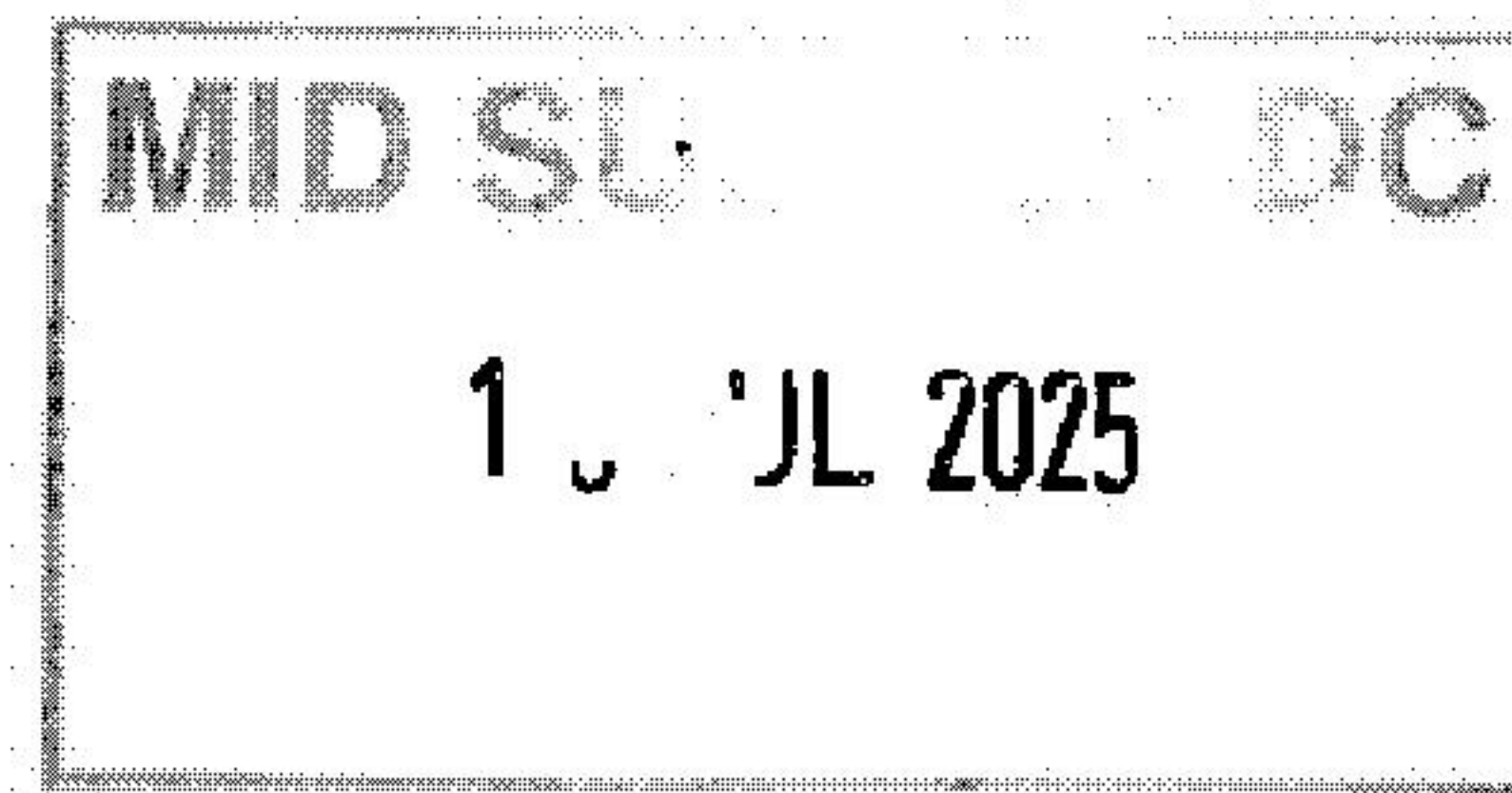




66, Lancaster Drive
East Grinstead
West Sussex
RH19 3XH
8th July 2025

Mid-Sussex District Council
Assistant Director Planning and Sustainable Economy
Oaklands Road
Hayward Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1SS
FAO Ms Anne Biggs/Ms Anna Tidey

Notification of Planning Application

68 Lancaster Drive, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 3XH
Planning Application No: DM/25/0824

Dear Ms Biggs and Ms Tidey,

Thank you for sending the second submission of plans for the above application. We are disappointed to see that the concessions made are very minimal. This indicates to us that the plans are simply too extensive for the position and size of the land available. As mentioned in our initial comments there isn't another house on the estate where the 'dog leg' incorporated into a neighbour's layout has been claimed back. Using even part of the dog leg, as suggested, which we have undisputedly used for 52 years, will still require demolishing projects, previously mentioned, that we have carried out in this area, also an ensuite could be designed successfully without the extra width.

There are no other houses on the estate where a two-storey extension has been built facing onto a neighbour's back door and bathroom window. Building so close to our home especially near a door we use regularly will be simply intolerable.

When we moved here 52 years ago, the downstairs floor of our house subsided, and major work and tons of concrete had to be pumped in to stabilise and relay it. The neighbours at No 70, on the other side of the proposed extension, attempted to excavate and build an extension, but due to the unstable ground were unable to go ahead. The point being that at present No 68 has a ground floor extension built by previous owners who didn't intend to build above it. We were told that planning permission wasn't required for a ground floor extension.

Consequently, there is a strong likelihood that the current building will need to be demolished due to unstable ground, so that the foundations can be re-excavated, and the inadequate drainage system replaced before a two-storey building can be erected. This will be major, expensive work and may even prove impossible. It will

certainly, undermine our brick pathways and cause immense mud, dirt, and noise outside our kitchen door, not to mention the proximity of scaffolding required if the work goes ahead. Our kitchen is in constant use so this will be a huge imposition and disturbance for us.

Additionally, no mention has been made about the proximity of the boiler to our kitchen air vent, which having fought Stage 4 Cancer, leaving me with no functioning adrenal glands and therefore no natural immunity, is a huge concern for me.

We appreciate that they have changed the angle of the roof but of course the light will still be reduced in that area and into our kitchen and bathroom.

As for the patio doors and Juliet balcony, although the width of the window has been reduced the view over our garden remains the same. In 1973 we chose a detached house to give us space and privacy, but No 68 will be closer than any other house on the estate, making it feel claustrophobic, over shadowed and reducing the desirability of our house, as well as setting a precedent, altering the spacious layout of the estate that currently exists.

Altogether, it has been very upsetting and stressful to suddenly be anticipating all the noise and disruption to alter our home, as we have known it since 1973.

We have already suffered from the catastrophe of next door's inadequate land drainage provision, when Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis, a pair of intense extratropical cyclones, caused a huge landslide, taking a wall, fence, shrubs, trees, and tons of soil downwards into the woods and as mentioned previously, costing us thousands of pounds to inadequately stabilise our garden.

Even the day before yesterday's storm water (6th July) was too much for next door's inadequate gutters and non-existent land drains, which poured over the already rotting boundary fences before gushing down our pathway towards our landslide area and vulnerable retaining wall.

The prospect of many more months of disruption is very distressing and certainly inadvisable for someone living with heart failure as I do.

Unfortunately, the two neighbours directly opposite are unable to comment on the effect these proposals will inevitably have on their view of the houses and woods opposite as they are very elderly and incapacitated. I'm sure however, that it will impact on their view of the open space and woods between the houses which they've enjoyed for almost as long as us.

We hope these factors will be taken into consideration as you make your decision. Thank you for listening once again to our worries and long moan!

