

Steven King

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 July 2025 10:14
To: Ann Biggs
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Ann Biggs, Assistant Director of Planning and Sustainable Economy at Mid Sussex District Council
Attachments: Request for Reasonable Adjustment Under the Equality Act 2010 seemingly ignored by Mid Sussex Council

FAO Ann Biggs, Assistant Director of Planning and Sustainable Economy at Mid Sussex District Council

Dear Ann Biggs,

Please forgive my informality and this unannounced email but as a veteran

So I hope that this email is acceptable to you.

I feel obligated to send you this email out of frustration and in the hope that it may help others.

- Given the email reply forwarded below to my number of requests for a reasonable adjustment under the equality act, which I feel hasn't been fully understood and or recognised.

I suggest this as it is known and documented that there are a number of let's say 'faux pas' in some of the council reports that present a more favourable position than is actually the case in reality RE: Mid Sussex Planning Applications' numbers DM/25/0014; DM/25/0015; DM/25/0016 & DM/25/0017 and that are some errors of omission and or things seemingly not shown, which I'm sure are not deliberate but are just not understood and so are unable to be taken into account.

So I would be surprised if the council would wish to proceed without ensuring that all if their reports are accurate, up-to-date and inclusive before making a considered decision.

Therefore I would like to appeal the decision taken below as it is vital that such significant decisions are taken with accurate and up-to-date reports, and can demonstrate appropriate and full inclusion, which is not the case at the moment

- I would suggest that to ensure that the council works in partnership with all parts of the community and in order that I and other vulnerable groups can fully engage with the planning process.
Therefore I would request a reconsideration of the request for reasonable adjustments in order that:
 - That the impact on vulnerable groups are robustly and independently assessed BEFORE these applications are allowed to proceed – for the avoidance of doubt this has NOT been done as yet
 - That as part of any robust assessment to be completed that such vulnerable groups are actually and physically sought out and engaged with in order to ensure that their needs not wants are taken account of – including myself as a resident directly impacted by the applications’

I would highlight that these adjustments are necessary to prevent disadvantage and to ensure compliance with the council's public sector equality duty and obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

- I understand that Planning regulations cannot overrule and or supersede the council and its officers wider statutory obligations' and responsibilities' and so failure to provide for such reasonable adjustments would provide for
 - Insufficient and appropriate consultation and collaboration with affected residents
 - Insufficient Statutory 'safeguarding' obligations and responsibilities' issues of children and young people vulnerable adults with whatever physical and or mental disabilities and or age related conditions

The meeting of such obligations should also help to support and deliver the councils own published priorities' as reconfirmed w/c 10th February 2025 including the keeping of all residents (particularly children and vulnerable people) safe.

- Should the council and its officers not feel able to meet with the appeal, despite the many reasonable requests made over many months without reply, then I would further request that the meeting on the 17th July 2025 be reasonably delayed in order that I can consult and work collaboratively with the equalities and human rights commission to best present my own representations.

I hope that this email helps to support the right decision(s) for the benefit of the communities' of Crawley Down.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. With renewed thanks as ever

[REDACTED]

From: Steven King [mailto:Steven.King@midsussex.gov.uk]

Sent: 08 July 2025 18:41

[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: DM/25/0014 & 0015 & 0016 & 0017

[REDACTED]

I am writing further to your e mails regarding the above planning applications.

The requirements for the publicity of planning applications are set out in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. The Council has publicised the applications in accordance with the legislation.

I note your request for a Reasonable Adjustment Under the Equality Act 2010 in relation to your and vulnerable group participation in the planning process. I am satisfied that the Council has fulfilled the legal requirements in relation to the publicity of these planning applications and that interested parties have had the opportunity to comment on the proposals. I note that you have made representations about the planning merits of the applications, and these will be taken into account when Members of the District Planning Committee determine the planning applications.

The assessment of the planning applications has taken into account the Councils responsibilities under the Equalities Act. The Local Highway Authority have also given due regard to access by disabled groups with the relevant guidance of Inclusive Mobility having been taken into account when they considered the applications and provided their consultation responses. The Local Highway Authority have considered the safety of the proposed access arrangements, including personal security.

To summarise, I believe that the Council has publicised these applications correctly and interested parties have had the opportunity to comment on the proposals. The applications have generated significant public interest, both for and against the proposals. The content of the letters of representation received will be summarised for the Members of the District Planning Committee so that they can take this into account when they make their decision on the planning applications.

I trust the above is helpful.

Regards

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Working together for a better Mid Sussex

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