

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 17/03/2026 2:14 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	The Woodlands 217 Wrotham Road Gravesend Kent
Proposal:	Alterations to existing restaurant, including alterations to elevations, additional works to accommodate plant, new corral and bin store, demolition of existing single storey side extension with erection of new single storey side extension, minor external work to existing parking bays, creation of patio and other associated work.
Case Officer:	Mrs Lisa Fisher

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Lynton Road South Gravesend

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Neighbour
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	To the Planning Department, Gravesham Borough Council I am writing to formally object to the proposed conversion of The Woodlands, 217 Wrotham Road, into a McDonald's restaurant. 1. Proximity to St George's School - unacceptable risk to children The site is located approximately 800 metres from St George's Church of England School. This is well within the distance typically used by councils to restrict new fast-food outlets near schools due to safeguarding and health concerns. A McDonald's in this location would inevitably attract large numbers of pupils before and after school, increasing risks around road safety, unhealthy eating, and anti-social behaviour. 2. Severe traffic congestion and road safety hazards Wrotham Road is already a heavily used arterial route with frequent congestion, especially during school start and finish times. Introducing a high-volume fast-food outlet will significantly increase: - Vehicle movements - Right-turn manoeuvres - Queuing traffic - Pedestrian conflict points This creates a serious and foreseeable danger to schoolchildren, local residents,
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and road users.

3. The site layout is unsuitable for high-intensity fast-food use

Unlike the former Beefeater, which operated at relatively low peak intensity, a McDonald's generates:

Continuous all-day traffic

High turnover of vehicles

Delivery drivers (Uber Eats, Just Eat, Deliveroo)

Increased noise and light pollution

The surrounding residential roads are not designed for this level of activity.

4. Harm to residential amenity

Local residents will be affected by:

Late-evening noise

Car engines idling

Litter and food waste

Anti-social behaviour

Increased footfall at night

This is contrary to the council's duty to protect residential amenity.

5. No demonstrated community benefit

The proposal offers no meaningful benefit to the local community that would outweigh the clear harms.

There are already multiple fast-food outlets within Gravesend town centre, which is the appropriate location for such businesses.

6. Inconsistent with public health objectives

National planning policy now gives councils stronger powers to prevent unhealthy food outlets near schools. Approving this application would undermine those objectives and set a damaging precedent.

Conclusion

For the reasons above, I respectfully request that the council refuse this application in the interests of public safety, child welfare, traffic management, and residential amenity.

Kind regards