

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 25/08/2026 3:12 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Land North Of The Drove Way Istead Rise Gravesend Kent DA13 9JY
Proposal:	Development for up to 100 residential dwellings (Class C3), including the formation of new accesses from The Drove Way, the provision of new areas of public open space and all other associated infrastructure and ancillary works (all detailed matters reserved other than means of access).
Case Officer:	Ms Rebecca Harrison

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] HILL CLOSE ISTEAD RISE

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	Rebecca Harrison Planning Officer Gravesham Borough Council Civic Centre Gravesend Kent DA12 1AU Application Reference: 20260649 Land to the rear / north of The Drove Way, Istead Rise - Outline application for up to 100 dwellings Dear Ms Harrison, I am writing to formally object to planning application 20260649 for the construction of up to 100 new homes on agricultural land to the rear of The Drove Way in Istead Rise. I have lived in Istead Rise for six years with my family. We chose this village precisely because of its semi-rural character, the surrounding farmland and greenbelt, and the sense of community that still exists here.
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The proposal to build 100 homes on this greenfield site would fundamentally change the place we call home, and I am deeply concerned about the lasting impact it would have on my family and our neighbours.

The most immediate effect would be on our roads. The junctions in and out of Istead Rise, the A227 and New Barn Road already struggle at peak times. Adding the traffic generated by another 100 households would make daily journeys significantly worse - whether taking children to school, commuting, or simply trying to get to the shops. We are almost entirely car-dependent here. There is no train station, and the bus service is limited and does not run every day.

There are no safe walking or cycling routes to Gravesend or Meopham. Extra cars are not a theoretical problem; they will directly affect the quality of our daily lives and the safety of local roads.

Local services are already under severe strain. Our GP surgery and the hospitals that serve us are at or beyond capacity. After six years in the village I still cannot get a place at the local dentist.

I personally know families whose children cannot get into the local primary school because there are simply no places left.

Adding 100 more homes will only intensify the pressure on schools, colleges, medical services and the limited shopping facilities we have - facilities that already lack adequate parking.

The infrastructure of Istead Rise was never designed for a much larger population.

I am also profoundly concerned about the permanent loss of greenbelt agricultural land. This is productive farmland that contributes to our food security. Once it is built on, it is gone forever, along with the natural habitats, mature trees, hedgerows and wildlife that currently exist there. The environmental consequences would be irreversible. In a time of growing awareness about food security and biodiversity, concreting over this land feels both short-sighted and damaging.

The scale of the proposal is simply inappropriate for Istead Rise. It does not reflect the needs or character of the existing community. While the applicant may claim the homes are needed, the reality for those of us already living here is that the village's limited services, transport links and infrastructure cannot absorb this level of growth without serious harm to the quality of life of current residents.

For all these reasons - the increased traffic congestion and road safety risks, the additional pressure on already overstretched health, dental and education services, the total car-dependency of the location, the inadequate local facilities, the loss of essential farmland and greenbelt, the irreversible environmental damage, and the fact that the proposal is out of scale with the village - I strongly urge the Council to refuse this application.

I would be grateful if you would take these concerns into full account when determining the application.

Please confirm receipt of this letter and keep me informed of any updates or the date of any committee meeting at which it will be considered.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

Kind regards