

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 31/08/2026 6:37 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] Crockenhall Way Gravesend

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Crockenhall Way
Istead Rise
DA13 9DB

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed housing development at in Istead Rise.

My family and I recently moved to Istead Rise because of the very qualities that this development, and the inevitable developments that follow it, threaten to destroy. We chose this village for its quiet, friendly and close-knit community, its rural surroundings and the opportunity for our children to grow up surrounded by open countryside and nature. We did not move here to find ourselves living in an increasingly built-up and congested area.

I fully appreciate that new homes are needed, but housing targets cannot come at the expense of the character, infrastructure and environment of an existing village. Istead Rise is a relatively small community and there must be a realistic limit to how much development it can absorb.

School capacity is already a serious problem. I have two children and have only been able to secure one place for my children at the village school. There is no

place for my other child, meaning I am already having to travel back to our previous area for their education. This is the reality for an existing family living here before this development brings additional families into the village. Where will the children from these new homes attend school? What additional capacity is actually available? If there is already insufficient space for existing residents and limited scope to provide new educational facilities within the village, adding a substantial number of homes appears fundamentally unsustainable.

The same concern applies to GPs, hospitals and other local services. Additional residents will inevitably increase demand on already stretched healthcare and community infrastructure. New homes should not be approved without proper consideration of whether the infrastructure needed to support them actually exists or can realistically be provided.

Water supply is another major concern. We have just experienced a hosepipe ban lasting the entire six-week period of summer. This is not a theoretical future problem; residents have already experienced restrictions on water use because of pressure on available supplies.

It is extremely difficult to reconcile this with continued large-scale housing development. Every new household creates permanent additional demand for water. If the existing community is already subject to prolonged restrictions during dry periods, the Council must seriously question whether further development is genuinely sustainable.

There are also significant concerns regarding traffic and congestion. Istead Rise is a village, with roads and infrastructure appropriate to a village environment. New housing means more cars, school runs, deliveries and daily journeys. The cumulative impact of this development alongside other existing and proposed developments must be properly assessed. Residents should not have to accept the gradual transformation of quiet village roads into increasingly congested routes.

The loss of countryside and wildlife is also deeply concerning. The fields, hedgerows and surrounding green spaces are not simply vacant land. They provide valuable habitats for birds, mammals, insects and other wildlife and form an important part of the rural character of Istead Rise. Development will inevitably result in habitat loss, disturbance and increased human activity, lighting and traffic. Once these fields are built upon, that countryside cannot be recovered.

Most importantly, I ask the Council to consider the cumulative impact of development. This application should not be viewed in isolation. Once one field is developed, further applications become easier to justify, and the combined effect can fundamentally alter the character of the village.

Istead Rise is more than a collection of houses. This village has been home to generations of families, many of whom still live here today. Families have grown up here, raised their children here and built their lives within this community. There is a history, identity and sense of belonging here that cannot be recreated once the village is overwhelmed by development.

We want our children to have the opportunity to experience the same village life. We want them to grow up knowing their neighbours, enjoying the countryside and wildlife, and being part of a genuine community.

Please do not ruin that for our families.

We moved to Istead Rise because we wanted village life, peace, community and countryside. If developments continue to replace the surrounding fields with

housing, increase traffic and place additional pressure on schools, healthcare and water supplies, the very reasons people choose to live here will be lost.

I therefore strongly urge the Council to refuse this application.

[REDACTED]

Kind regards