

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 19/08/2026 9:53 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] The Drove Way Gravesend

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments: Dear Planning Officer,

I wish to formally object to planning application 20260649 for the proposed development of up to 100 residential dwellings on land north of The Drove Way, Istead Rise.

I have serious concerns about the impact this development would have on the local area, particularly the loss of countryside and wildlife habitat, increased traffic and pressure on already stretched local infrastructure.

Loss of countryside and wildlife

This area is important local countryside and provides habitat for a significant amount of wildlife. The land and surrounding open areas are home to birds, insects, small mammals and other wildlife, and the existing landscape forms an important part of the character of Istead Rise.

The construction of up to 100 houses would result in a substantial loss of open countryside and natural habitat. Once this land is developed, the damage to the existing landscape and wildlife will be permanent.

There should be much greater consideration given to whether this is an

appropriate location for such a large development and whether the environmental impact can genuinely be justified.

Traffic and road safety

The existing roads around Istead Rise are already busy, particularly at peak times. Adding up to 100 additional households would inevitably increase the number of cars using The Drove Way and surrounding roads.

I am particularly concerned about the cumulative effect of additional traffic, congestion and pressure on local routes. The existing road network was not designed with this scale of additional development in mind.

Any assessment of the application should consider the cumulative impact of this development alongside other developments in the surrounding area, rather than considering this application in isolation.

Pressure on local services

I am also concerned about the additional pressure that 100 new homes would place on local services and infrastructure.

Local schools and GP services are already under considerable pressure, and adding potentially hundreds of additional residents would increase demand for education, healthcare, roads, public transport and other community facilities.

It is important that the necessary infrastructure is actually available and capable of supporting this development, rather than allowing the housing to be built first and expecting existing services to absorb the additional population.

Impact on the character of Istead Rise

Istead Rise has a distinct semi-rural character, and the surrounding countryside contributes significantly to the identity and appearance of the area.

A development of up to 100 dwellings would represent a significant expansion of the built-up area and would fundamentally change the character of this part of Istead Rise.

The continued loss of surrounding countryside to residential development is deeply concerning. There needs to be a balance between meeting housing targets and protecting the existing communities, landscapes and environment that make these areas desirable places to live.

Cumulative development

There is also a wider concern about the cumulative amount of development taking place in and around the area.

Residents are increasingly seeing open land and countryside being replaced with housing. Each individual application may appear manageable when considered separately, but the combined effect is significant: more residents, more vehicles, greater pressure on schools and healthcare, increased congestion and progressively less accessible countryside and wildlife habitat.

This application should therefore be assessed in the context of the overall level of development already taking place or proposed locally.

Conclusion

I strongly object to application 20260649 and ask Gravesham Borough Council to

carefully consider the significant cumulative impact of this proposal.

In particular, I ask the Council to consider:

- * The loss of valuable open countryside and wildlife habitat.
- * The impact on local wildlife and biodiversity.
- * Increased traffic and congestion on The Drove Way and surrounding roads.
- * Road safety implications.
- * The additional pressure on local schools and healthcare services.
- * The capacity of existing local infrastructure.
- * The impact on the semi-rural character and appearance of Istead Rise.
- * The cumulative impact of this development alongside other housing developments in the area.
- * Whether the proposed development is genuinely sustainable in this location.

I believe the environmental, infrastructure, traffic and character impacts of this proposal have the potential to outweigh the benefits of providing additional housing on this particular site.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that planning permission be refused.

Kind regards