

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 05/09/2026 9:16 AM 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] Downs Road Istead Rise Gravesend

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments:

I strongly object to the proposal for a further 100 homes in Istead Rise on land north of The Drove Way. Let us not forget that this proposal is on top of the 250 homes already identified in planning applications for Istead Rise.

Istead Rise currently has around 1,381 households and a population of approximately 3,397 people, based on the 2021 Census. If all these applications were approved - which I sincerely hope they are not - the additional 350 homes would represent an increase of around 25% in the number of households.

Using an average household size of 2.5 people, this could mean approximately 875 additional residents, taking the population to around 4,270. For a village of this size, this is not a marginal increase; it would fundamentally change the scale and demands placed on the local community.

I am seriously concerned that the existing infrastructure does not have sufficient capacity to accommodate growth of this magnitude:

- [] Local schools,
- [] GP and other healthcare services,
- [] roads,
- [] traffic networks,
- [] parking,

- [] public transport,
- [] shops,
- [] recreational facilities,
- [] open spaces, and precious habitats for our wildlife,
- [] food production on areas of greenbelt - it is disingenuous to refer to these as grey belt,
- [] Water - Istead Rise is subject to annual hosepipe bans.

These are already important considerations, and a potential 25% increase in households would place substantial additional pressure on our infrastructure. This scale of development absolutely cannot be justified.

Population growth in Istead Rise has remained relatively static according to previous Census data, so there appears to be little evidence of a corresponding local demographic increase that would generate demand for this scale of additional housing. If the justification is instead based on meeting Gravesham-wide housing requirements, then it should be clearly demonstrated why Istead Rise has been identified as an appropriate location to accommodate that level of growth, and how the proposed number of homes has been determined.

Irrespective of these concerns, where are the guarantees that these new developments will not compromise food security? Development must not come at the cost of our ability to feed ourselves. This is agricultural land, first and foremost!

Brownfield first, Gravesham!

Kind regards