

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 18/06/2026 10:36 AM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Former St Josephs Convent Preparatory School 46 Old Road East Gravesend Kent DA12 1NR
Proposal:	Application for variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission reference number 20240013 for conversion of existing Victorian building into 6 flats. Demolition of existing outbuildings. Erection of a 3 storey medical centre. Erection of a building containing 7no flats. Erection of 41no houses. Associated works to include; access, public open space and landscaping; to allow amendments to the proposed size of the housing units to include 4 bedroom housing and additional 3 bed housing.
Case Officer:	Ms Rebecca Harrison

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Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Old Road East Gravesend

Comments Details

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

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	I repeat below part of my presentation to the Planning Committee of 5/2/25 in which the initial proposal was approved. First and foremost, I believe that one of the fundamental rights we hold as residents is the right to privacy in our own homes. Our homes are sanctuaries where we should feel safe, comfortable, and free from undue intrusion. The proposed development, in particular the medical centre threatens to undermine this basic right by placing a public structure that is out of place, too large and too close to existing residential properties, particularly ours and our immediate neighbours. The medical centre has its main entrance directly facing the rear of my house, the main feature of which being a 7-metre glass sliding door. Due to the higher elevation of the house, my living room, dining room and kitchen will be in the direct line of sight of the 100's of members of the public using the medical centre entrance on a daily basis. This will cause a complete loss of privacy for both my property's indoor and outdoor areas to the general public.
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Furthermore, the issue of privacy is not just about personal comfort-it's also about security. The close proximity of the medical centre to our homes with the stream of 100's of visitors each day increases the risk of unwanted attention and generates security concerns. Our homes, our gardens, our everyday lives could be laid bare to those visiting the medical centre.

I also want to bring to your attention the negative emotional and psychological impacts that such a change could have. Studies have shown that a lack of privacy can lead to increased stress and anxiety, particularly when the sense of being constantly observed becomes overwhelming. The value of privacy in residential areas cannot be underestimated - not only for physical safety but also for mental well-being. The introduction of a medical centre which is surely built to foster well-being could potentially have the complete reverse effect on the community it is there to serve.

Whilst I understand and accept the need for growth and development in our community, I urge the committee to consider alternatives that will preserve the privacy and tranquillity of existing residents. I ask that you carefully review the proposed development's design and positioning to ensure that our homes are not overshadowed or exposed to unnecessary visibility.

In closing, I respectfully request that the planning committee take this concern seriously. I am very supportive that the site should be redeveloped, however, ask for a development that harmonizes with the current landscape and upholds the privacy of all residents. After all, the value of a community lies not only in its infrastructure but in the lives of those who call it home.

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I am flabbergasted to see that the developer is once again coming back to planning attempting to use every last inch of this already very tight site which will further negatively affect the privacy of existing residents as well as the important impact on parking, traffic, provision of services such as education, healthcare, etc.

Moreover, since the initial approval of the development some 16 months ago, there has been no dialogue with ourselves or neighbours as to the proposed treatment of boundaries and landscaping in an attempt to deal with privacy concerns. How can anyone provide a fair response to the latest application with the lack of this crucial information?

From a personal perspective I am now faced with the revised issue of having 2 boundary holders adjoining my property - St Joseph's development boundaries and Surgery boundaries with little reassurance that the Surgery will ever go ahead following the latest "non-material amendment approval" of the planning department and the quandary with what happens at that time to these boundaries.

In addition, I communicated with members of the planning department following the initial planning approval, with my thoughts as to how certain privacy issues could be improved for neighbours without material amendment to the overall development. I regret to advise that I did not even receive the courtesy of a reply, which I believe as an interested party and a Gravesham council tax payer am entitled to. In this respect, I hold out little hope that the existing residents will receive a fair hearing and once again planning in Gravesham will fail to serve the tax payers.

Kind regards

