



Mrs Alison Webster
Planning Services
Gravesend Borough Council

Growth, Environment & Transport

**Public Rights of Way & Access
Service**

West Kent PROW Team
Worrall House
Kingshill Avenue
Kings Hill
ME19 4AE

Phone: 03000 418168
Ask for: Julian Ling
Email: Julian.ling@kent.gov.uk
Date: 03.12.2025

Dear Alison

REFERENCE: 20251116

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Outline application with all matters reserved (except access) for a development of up to 150 dwellings (Use Class C3), including affordable dwellings, and associated landscaping, public open space and infrastructure works.

LOCATION: Land West Of Norwood Lane Meopham Gravesend Kent DA13 0YE

Thank you for your letter dated 21st November regarding the above planning application and the opportunity to comment on this development proposal. It is acknowledged that as an outline application only the matters of access are being considered at this stage and all other matters including layout are reserved for future consideration.

The development site accommodates Public Right of Way (PROW) NS 250, which runs across the entire site from the western boundary to the south east corner. I enclose a copy of the Public Rights of Way network maps showing the line of the path for your information.

Concerns are had over the indicative layout of the houses and internal roads in relation to PROW NS 250 and how this could affect the PROW. However, it is acknowledged that the proposed plans and planning statement confirm the "retained alignment of existing Public Right of Way, setting it alongside a tree-lined street and connected green spaces". Therefore Public Right of Way NS 250 should be retained and maintained and must be appropriately incorporated into the development and clearly identified and signposted.

The footpath surface must be reinstated or upgraded to a specification suitable for pedestrian use, ensuring it is safe, durable, and properly drained. Please advise the applicant to contact this office to discuss the proposed surface specification and any change in width of the Public Right of Way prior to any works being carried out.

The granting of planning permission confers no other permission or consent on the applicant. It is therefore important to advise the applicant that no works can be undertaken on a Public Right of Way without the express consent of the Highways Authority. In cases of doubt the applicant should be advised to contact this office before commencing any works that may affect the Public Right of Way. Should any temporary closures be required to ensure public safety then this office will deal on the basis that:

- The applicant pays for the administration costs.
- The duration of the closure is kept to a minimum.
- Alternative routes will be provided for the duration of the closure.
- A minimum of eight weeks' notice is required to process any temporary closures.

This means that the Public Right of Way must not be stopped up, diverted, obstructed (this includes any building materials or waste generated during any of the construction phases) or the surface disturbed. There must be no encroachment on the current width, at any time now or in future and no furniture or fixtures may be erected on or across Public Rights of Way without consent.

To ensure Public Rights of Way NS 250 is safeguarded, it is recommended that the following conditions are applied to any approval of planning permission;

- Prior to the commencement of development, a Public Rights of Way Management Scheme shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority and Highway Authority. The scheme shall include provision for:
 - i. the design of access and public rights of way routes and their surfacing, widths, gradients, landscaping and structures
 - ii. any proposals for diversion and closure of public rights of way and alternative route provision

Reason: In the interests of the amenity and safety of the public

- No excavation or tipping of surface material or temporary storage of soils, waste, materials, plant or equipment or any other such materials shall take place on the Public Rights of Way NS 250 or within a minimum distance of 5 metres.

Reason: To prevent obstruction of the Public Rights of Way and protect users of the Public Rights of Way.

Lastly, to ensure an appropriate surface throughout the entire length of this path to enable the safe and attractive use of the path, it is requested that a monetary contribution of £2,000 is secured through a Section 106 Legal Agreement to resurface and maintain the short section of PROW NS 250 that is positioned between the houses off Tradescant Drive.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Julian Ling

Area Officer [Dartford & Gravesham]
Growth, Environment & Transport