

# Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

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

Comments were submitted at 01/12/2025 7:59 PM from [REDACTED]

## Application Summary

Address:	Land West Of Norwood Lane Meopham Gravesend Kent DA13 0YE
Proposal:	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.
Case Officer:	Mrs Alison Webster

[Click for further information](#)

## Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED] Wrotham Road Meopham

## Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application
Reasons for comment:	

Comments: I am writing to formally object to the proposed development on Green Belt land in Meopham for the following reasons:

### 1. Protection of Green Belt Land

The site is designated Green Belt, intended to preserve natural spaces and prevent urban sprawl. Green Belt is a government promise to protect these areas in perpetuity. This land contains ancient trees and productive farmland, vital for Kent's heritage as a prime fruit-growing region. Development here is short-sighted and undermines sustainability.

This application in conjunction with other applications in the local area represents an almost doubling of the local urban area, resulting in uncontained urban sprawl, and would make Meopham totally unrecognisable compared to the village that it is today. This application essentially joins Sole Street to Meopham. Urban sprawl must be rejected on greenbelt land.

### Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraphs 137-151: Green Belt should remain permanently open; development is only permissible under 'very special circumstances', which this proposal does not demonstrate.
- Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy Policy CS02: Protects Green Belt from inappropriate development.

## 2. Inadequate Road Infrastructure and Dangerous Access

The proposed access near Green Lane and Camer Parade shops is unsafe and impractical. The A227 is already congested during peak hours. Recent roadworks outside The George pub turned a 3-minute journey into over 40 minutes, highlighting the fragility of the local road network. Additional traffic will worsen congestion and create hazards.

### Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraph 111: Development should be refused where cumulative transport impacts are severe.
- Local Plan Policy T1: Requires safe access and avoidance of severe traffic impacts.

## 3. Increased Pressure on Local Services

Local schools and GP surgeries are at capacity. Darent Valley Hospital ranks poorly nationally and is under strain. Bus services have been cut in recent years, leaving residents reliant on cars, compounding congestion.

### Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraph 92: Planning should ensure healthy, inclusive communities with adequate services. This proposal fails to meet that requirement.

## 4. Environmental and Agricultural Impact

The land is productive farmland and part of Kent's fruit-growing heritage. Development would harm biodiversity and food security.

### Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraph 174: Decisions should protect valued landscapes and agricultural land.

### Conclusion

This proposal disregards Green Belt protections, fails to address infrastructure limitations, and places unsustainable pressure on local services. It is not suitable for Meopham and should be rejected.

Green Belt land is a promise-a commitment to preserve natural spaces for future generations. This promise must be upheld.

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Kind regards