

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 8:06 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 wish to register my strong objection to the proposed development on Green Belt land in Meopham. This scheme raises serious concerns regarding environmental protection, infrastructure capacity, and community well-being.

1. Importance of Green Belt Preservation

The Green Belt exists to safeguard open countryside and prevent unchecked urban expansion. This land is part of a vital promise to keep rural areas permanently protected. It supports ancient woodland and productive farmland, essential for Kent's agricultural heritage and food security. Sacrificing this for short-term housing gains is fundamentally misguided.

Furthermore, when combined with other nearby proposals, this application would almost double the size of the local urban footprint. Such growth would lead to uncontained sprawl, erasing Meopham's character as a village and replacing it with a congested suburban landscape. Urban sprawl on Green Belt land must be prevented.

Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraphs 137-151: Green Belt should remain open; development is only allowed under 'very special circumstances', which are not demonstrated here.
- Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy Policy CS02: Protects Green Belt from inappropriate development.

2. Severe Transport and Access Issues

The proposed access points near Green Lane and Camer Parade shops are highly problematic. The A227 already suffers heavy congestion during peak periods. Recent temporary traffic lights outside The George pub caused delays of over 40 minutes for a journey that normally takes three minutes - clear evidence of the network's fragility. Adding hundreds of extra vehicle movements daily will create dangerous conditions and gridlock.

Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraph 111: Development should be refused where cumulative transport impacts are severe.
- Local Plan Policy T1: Requires safe and suitable access without causing significant traffic harm.

3. Pressure on Local Services

Schools and GP surgeries are already stretched to capacity. Darent Valley Hospital performs poorly in national rankings and faces mounting pressure. Public transport options are minimal and have been reduced in recent years, leaving residents dependent on cars. This proposal offers no credible plan to address these shortcomings.

Relevant Policy:

- NPPF Paragraph 92: Planning should ensure communities have adequate services and facilities. This scheme fails to do so.

4. Environmental and Agricultural Impact

The site is not just scenic -it is productive farmland and part of Kent's fruit-growing tradition. Development would destroy biodiversity, harm food production, and diminish the rural landscape that defines this area.

Relevant Policy:

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

Conclusion

This proposal disregards national and local planning policy, threatens the integrity of the Green Belt, and places unsustainable strain on infrastructure and services. It is wholly inappropriate for Meopham and must be refused.

The Green Belt is a cornerstone of planning policy - a commitment to preserve natural spaces for future generations. That commitment must be honoured.

Kind regards