

From: Janet Brown [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 November 2019 15:26
To: Planning Comments
Subject: Your ref: 19/05000/HYB

Revised planning application for Fort Halstead

Dear Sir/Madam

We feel that the area north of the M25 in the local plan is being disproportionately targeted with residential developments. This will entail the destruction of significant areas of Green Belt land. The impact on the area will contribute to urban sprawl and is detrimental to the surrounding rural communities.

The expansion of the proposed development from 450 to 750 properties at Fort Halstead will dwarf the surrounding villages which typically do not exceed 500 dwellings.

This will increase pressure on the very limited public transport that exists now and there is no capacity for any extra trains from Knockholt station, which is 2.5 miles from the village. There is a very restricted bus service serving Knockholt and residents living at Fort Halstead would be forced to drive to shops, schools, stations etc. A major issue for Knockholt and Halstead villages is the impact the increased volume of traffic would have on our narrow pot-holed roads. A development of 750 properties is likely to result in at least another 1500 vehicles on our roads. Star Hill is a steep, narrow road with hairpin bends and no pavements and is heavily used by cyclists. SDC has pledged not to open the exit from Fort Halstead onto Star Hill for general use and we hope this still stands. It is imperative that this exit remains restricted to emergency services and buses.

The local services and infrastructure can not support a development of this size and there are no exceptional circumstances to support breaching the Government National Planning Policy Framework regarding the Green Belt.

We sincerely hope that Sevenoaks District Council reject this application.

Yours sincerely,

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Sent from my iPad