

11 April 2025

Dear Mr Smith

Re: Planning Reference Number: APP/C1055/W/24/3356476

Firstly, thank you for the work that you and the Planning Inspectorate are doing in allowing this public inquiry to take place.

It is important that both sides of the debate are given the opportunity to present their evidence and express their views, so that an informed decision can be reached.

In my role as MP for Mid Derbyshire, I have heard views from the residents of Spondon – and I have also visited the proposed development site.

Some residents are concerned that the proposal risks increasing traffic congestion on the neighbouring streets – especially in the given the close proximity of several schools, as there are limited routes in and out of the immediate area.

There are three schools within a small radius of the proposed site. Parents often use Royal Hill Road as a pick-up and drop-off spot for their children before and after school.

One of these schools operates high levels of SEND provision, which means that specialised transport and taxis need to be able to access the school sites.

Residents are concerned that congestion is already significant during peak hours, and they have reasonably stated further houses and the vehicles that come with that will worsen the situation along Royal Hill Road and the surrounding streets.

Any proposal needs to ensure that these considerations are fully analysed and understood, and that the current levels of traffic and projected levels of traffic are accurately represented.

The proposal also needs to make clear what pressures the development will bring on local services including schools and healthcare, and how these pressures can be mitigated.

Councils and the government are rightly working together to build the homes we need. This is part of the shared strategy to alleviate the housing crisis, improve people's quality of life and drive economic growth.

However, it is essential no stone is left unturned to ensure unacceptable strain is not placed on existing communities and their services – and that consideration is factored into any proposed development regarding flooding and the natural environment.

I ask that the inquiry carefully considers the affect this proposed development could have on the flow of traffic in the existing Spondon community – and, if this cannot be appropriately managed, that the enquiry rejects or amends the proposed development accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Davies MP

Member of Parliament for Mid Derbyshire