

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 September 2025 11:21

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To: Planning
Subject: DC/25/131

Categories: Comments Received

Dear Horsham District Council

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed West of Ifield development. I firmly believe that the area cannot cope with the scale of this development, and despite the promises of infrastructure upgrades, it is clear that both the current and future community will be adversely affected.

The villages of Ifield and Rusper are simply not capable of supporting the additional vehicles, residents, and strain on local services that this proposal would bring. This development would irreversibly damage a beautiful area of natural countryside, eroding the character and charm that makes these villages unique. The plans appear to prioritise the interests of developers rather than the needs of the community, and I fear that Ifield and Rusper will never be the same again should this go ahead.

While I fully support the need for modernisation and sustainable growth, this must take place in areas with appropriate infrastructure. Both Crawley and Horsham town centres are struggling to attract and retain major businesses, with many large employers leaving the area. The high streets are increasingly dominated by coffee shops and charity outlets—businesses that, while valuable in their own right, do not offer the economic stability and growth needed to support such a large-scale housing development.

Additionally, I am deeply concerned about the lack of consideration given to Ifield Golf Club and its members. As an active member of the club, I can attest to its importance as a valued leisure facility for the local community. To dismiss its relevance and build over this green space is deeply misguided. It is shocking to contemplate destroying areas of natural beauty while so many empty industrial units and unused retail premises within town centres remain available for redevelopment. These sites already have infrastructure in place and could be revitalised to meet housing needs without harming the countryside.

I urge Horsham District Council to reject this proposal outright. Building on protected green land is unacceptable, short-sighted, and will set a damaging precedent for future development. Ifield and Rusper are villages, not extensions of urban sprawl, and they must be preserved as such.

Please be assured that I will continue to oppose this development and stand against Homes England's plans. I strongly encourage the council to explore more suitable alternatives that can genuinely support future growth while protecting our environment and community heritage.

Yours

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