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Objection to Planning Application 55318/001 Due to Public Health Concerns

Dear Samantha Owen,

I am writing to submit an extended objection to planning application 55318/001 for the proposed development at Land west of Beechlands Road, South Medstead, Alton. This objection is based on significant public health concerns related to the continuous state of development in the area, particularly following the recent completion of Phase One by Bargate Homes in 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic.

KEY Public Health CONCERNS

Mental Health and Well-being

Stress and Anxiety: Continuous construction activities lead to heightened stress and anxiety levels among residents, particularly seniors who are already vulnerable.

Loss of Green Spaces: The erosion of natural environments reduces opportunities for restorative outdoor activities, negatively impacting mental well-being.

#Residential Amenity

2. Noise Pollution

Health Risks: Prolonged exposure to construction noise can cause hearing impairment, sleep disturbances, and increased stress levels, affecting seniors and individuals with pre-existing health conditions more severely.

Cognitive Impairment: Noise pollution can impair cognitive function, leading to decreased concentration and increased irritability, impacting daily life activities and overall quality of life.

#Residential Amenity



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3. Air Quality and Respiratory Health

Dust and Emissions: Construction activities generate dust and particulate matter, exacerbating respiratory conditions such as asthma and bronchitis, particularly concerning for COVID-19 survivors with compromised lung function.

Vulnerable Populations: Seniors and individuals with weakened immune systems are more susceptible to respiratory infections and conditions aggravated by poor air quality.

#Air and Water Quality

4. Community Disruption

Social Isolation: The constant presence of construction discourages outdoor activities and social interactions, increasing social isolation among seniors who may already experience loneliness.

Access to Services: Construction activities disrupt access to essential services and amenities, creating additional stress and inconvenience for residents.

#Residential Amenity #Infrastructure and Services

5. Lack of Transparency and Consultation

Public Trust: The lack of transparency regarding the planned Phase Two development undermines public trust. Residents feel deceived and marginalized, leading to feelings of helplessness and frustration.

Informed Decisions: Adequate consultation allows residents to voice their concerns and be part of the decision-making process. The absence of this process deprives the community of the opportunity to address potential health impacts proactively.

#Public Opinion # Local and National Planning Policies



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Conclusion

The proposed development raises significant public health concerns, particularly for vulnerable populations such as seniors and COVID-19 survivors. The continuous state of development, combined with the lack of transparency and consultation, exacerbates these issues, leading to a decline in the overall quality of life for residents. I urge the planning authority to consider these health implications carefully and ensure that the community's well-being is prioritised in the decision-making process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Note: For privacy reasons, all personal information including a signature has been attached as a separate document, as any comments on the planning application are intended to be published by EHDC.