

Hannah Dale

From: Roger Bindschedler [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2020 15:46
To: DevelopmentControl
Subject: Plan/2020/0568

Dear sir or madam,

I am concerned that Woking Council has not learned from the empty or unfulfilled promises by developers in the last 10 years. It took years for Centrum, by the station, to be occupied and even now the commercial portions remain mostly empty or are being converted to residential properties. The Bradfield house development promised a pavement piazza culture, which has not emerged and the development appears still only partially occupied. The proposals appear to be founded on similar optimistic hopes.

Whilst there is pressure on creating more residential property the centre of Woking should not be overdeveloped. Even with the existing changes to the road network, this development would put additional and excessive pressure on the roads and local facilities including the schools.

A significant concern, on health and safety grounds, is the ability to deal with fires and preventing the fire from spreading from one tower to the next. Three years ago the tallest fire platform in the UK, at 42 meters, was unable to reach the top floors of Grenfell Tower, which was only 24 storeys high. The proposals include five towers, up to 37 storeys high. Has Woking Fire Service got the equipment to deal with a fire in these towers? What will it cost to buy a fire platform high enough?

Whilst I have several other reasons to object, I believe health and safety and over development should be overriding factors in this discussion.

The council's obligation is to those already living within the borough and the impact on their quality of life over developing the town has, rather than seeking to increase the local population for other political agendas.

Kind Regards

Roger Bindschedler

Sent from my iPad