

# Comments for Planning Application PLAN/2020/0568

## Application Summary

Application Number: PLAN/2020/0568

Address: Land To The North And South Of Goldsworth Road Woking Surrey GU21 6JT

Proposal: Demolition of all existing buildings and redevelopment of the site for a phased mixed-use scheme, comprising 965 residential units (Class C3), communal residential and operational spaces, commercial uses (Classes A1/A2/A3/A4/B1/D1/D2) at ground floor and homeless shelter (sui generis) within 5 blocks of varying heights of between 9 and 40 storeys (plus rooftop amenity) to the north and south sides of the site together with soft and hard landscaping including public realm works, highway alterations to Goldsworth Road, car parking, cycle parking, bin storage, ancillary facilities and plant (Environmental Statement submitted).

Case Officer: Brooke Bougnague

## Customer Details

Name: Mr Martin Burwood

Address: 112 Kingsway, Woking, Surrey GU21 6NR

## Comment Details

Commenter Type: Resident (local res.- member of public)

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

- High-over density of development
- Impact of development
- Out of Character
- Support subject to minor amendment

Comment: Whilst being somewhat supportive of the plans for redevelopment of this area of Goldsworth Road, the proposed size of the tallest towers is, frankly, staggering.

The current development on the edge of Woking town centre includes the building of a tower 108m/31 stories tall. This will be one of the UK's tallest buildings ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_tallest\\_buildings\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_tallest_buildings_in_the_United_Kingdom)) - perhaps around ~70 in the UK (with ALL other buildings of this size in major cities).

A proposal for a building 41 stories tall in Woking beggars belief. It would be roughly the 50th tallest building in the UK and would be right up there with some of the tallest buildings in London (a global financial hub where 'sky scrapers' are a factor of life).

I have studied the plans and see the developers have provided some scant details regarding the 'sky line' impact - these, however, highlighted to me the absolutely devastating impact the buildings will have to the skyline from miles around.

Buildings 20-30 stories may be required if there really is a need for this additional housing in Woking ... But 40 is really just unnecessary.

I also feel that the housing provided would not have adequate parking which could lead to increased congestion and parking on streets nearby.

It feels like Woking could be on a slippery slope and this development, with the building sizes as they stand, could be the death-knell for a historic town.