From: KOREDE SENBANJO

Sent: 03 August 2020 19:22

To: DevelopmentControl

Subject: PLAN/2020/0568 - Goldsworth Road - OBJECTION

Dear Sir/Madam,

While it is a good thing that there are plans to redevelop that part of Goldsworth Road and build upwards rather than on the greenbelt, I object to these plans for the following reasons:

Height – At least one of the towers of this development is even higher than the highest Victoria Square one! This is most unnecessary and is not a positive contribution to the street scene - the surrounding areas and skyline will not look proportional.

Density – There are too many units for a scheme in this location/part of the town. I'm also concerned that Woking will end up with many empty flats like in some areas of China.

Affordable housing – The criterion (of 40%) is nowhere near being met. Is there a reason why?

Housing mix – I feel that family homes and larger dwellings are what's needed in Woking. Small flats are all well and good for a while but there comes a time when people need more space for a growing family and then where will they go? Is it not better to provide what the community requires? With coronavirus still with us and home working more common, why not build larger accommodations so that people can have sufficient space for their needs?

Parking – Woking already has a scarcity of parking spaces and expecting only a small proportion of residents not to drive is naïve at best. In these Covid-19 times, where public transport is being avoided, I believe cars are more sought after than ever and a scheme with insufficient parking will not do!

Traffic – It is very likely that such a large development will lead to even more traffic in the already congested town centre.

Wind tunnel effect – This is already evident when you exit the train station from platform 5, it can only surely be worse with at least five towers!

Fire safety – I'm concerned that when a building is so high, you're asking for trouble if there's a fire.

Retail is also dying so there's little point in providing such space e.g. the New Central development eventually turned retail space into flats when they stood empty for years.

All told, I think these plans show an enormous amount of greed on the part of the developers as it all seems like a cash grab! What happened to the original, smaller, more appropriate and approved plans?

Yours sincerely,

Ms Senbanjo