From:

Sent:

O4 August 2020 08:45

To:

DevelopmentControl

Subject:

Plan/2020/0568

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to lodge my objection to the proposed development on Goldsworth Road, GU21 6JT.

A 40-storey building - ie 6 storeys higher than the Victoria Square towers currently being constructed - is an utterly insensitive design with a significant negative visual impact on the immediate area and the surrounding villages. It is totally out of keeping with the historic scale of the town centre and the wider community.

The proposal does not appear to have given sufficient consideration to negative effects of overshadowing from such an excessively tall building.

Highway safety is bound to be adversely affected in the area, given the enormous amount of traffic that will be generated by such a development. The queues caused by the reopening of the drive-through McDonalds on Goldsworth Road recently were a clear reminder of how easily traffic flow can be adversely affected within the locality - and of course at the moment we have not yet had the experience of exactly how the Victoria Square towers will increase traffic, traffic noise and traffic pollution. The increase in pollution and noise from such a development simply will not be offset by the offer of inadequate cycle parking within the proposal!

The Victoria Square development is already the subject of much adverse comment and widely regarded as being out of place in a small town such as Woking. The traffic chaos caused during its construction has been a blight on the town and continues to be one. The fact that permission was given in the past for that development should not be used as a justification to overturn all previous sensible planning restrictions and history. Changed priorities which have come about thanks to Covid-19 should lead to a focus on more human-scale and sustainable development with an emphasis on reducing pollution and traffic. The proposal should be revised to reflect such concerns.

Yours faithfully, Lesley Templeman