From:	
To:	Planning Policy
Cc:	
Subject:	re: New Development at Velmore Park
Date:	10 March 2024 19:35:44

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a resident of Knightwood Park, Chandler's Ford, and wish to express my concerns regarding the proposed development at Velmore Farm off Templars Way, as outlined by the Test Valley Borough Council. The plan to construct 1070 houses and an employment site is a matter of significant concern not only to myself but to many of my colleagues residing in this area.

We appreciate the beauty and tranquillity of our local environment, including the verdant flora and fauna, and the delightful walks that our locality affords us. It is for these reasons, among others, that many of us were willing to pay a premium for our homes here. I personally cycle to work and find the current traffic levels to be just about tolerable.

While I understand and acknowledge the pressing need for increased housing, I cannot support this development. My objections are rooted in the substantial negative impacts it would likely have, notably a significant increase in traffic, which would exacerbate pollution levels and deteriorate the quality of living for existing residents. Furthermore, our local NHS services, particularly those provided by the Knightwood Surgery now under North Baddesley, are already overstretched. This development will undoubtedly place additional strain on these vital services, exacerbating current pressures.

Moreover, the development represents a significant encroachment upon a local gap that is cherished by the community. While the need for additional housing is clear, I believe the underlying issues stem from ineffective government immigration policies and a lack of strategic planning, which are separate but related discussions.

I urge you to consider these views carefully before proceeding with the proposed development. Our community values its current living conditions and fears that this project could irrevocably harm what makes Knightwood Park such a special place to live.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my views on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Nadeem Afzal Associate Professor NHS Consultant in Southampton Children's Hospital