

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 2025/0074

Address: Mount Clare Campus Minstead Gardens Roehampton Gate SW15 4EE

Proposal: Use as hostel accommodation (Sui generis) with associated landscaping and cycle parking

Comments Made By

Name: Mr. George Mills

Address: 40 SWAYTHLING HOUSE TUNWORTH CRESCENT LONDON SW15 4PQ

Comments

Type of comment: Object to the proposal

Comment: This proposal suggests noble intentions on the face of it. It makes clear that its plan is to give Wandsworth Borough Council first priority in filling its places with single homeless persons, It omits to state how many vacancies that would fill. Where are the rest of the single homeless persons going to come from? Are they prison leavers? Are they refugee claimants? Are they people who have addictions that need professional support? There has not been any clear discussion of this matter and it has been left to be decided after the permission has been granted.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of clear direction and clarity towards exactly who it intends to support, it fails. As it currently stands, the proposal will only be successful in placing up 240 single persons within our estate, with little support and a mixture of personal and social problems. This would define it as a 'dumping ground'.

There has been no attempt to discuss this application with local residents groups by either the applicant, or our local councillors. Even though the applicant has told me that they have the support of local councillors. I believe this to be a failure of the councils own accord towards planning applications.

I have had the opportunity to see inside some of the rooms that it is proposed will be used as temporary accommodation for single persons. They are no bigger than bed-sitting rooms. They do provided a small kitchenette and showering facilities. I have lived in similar accommodation. It provides the 'bare' basics but does not constitute a home. The application is for temporary accommodation, however, for whoever ends up living there it will be a temporary home. It is not unreasonable to expect to spend around two years in temporary accommodation before being offered permanent accommodation. My concern is that the residents accommodation will be cramped and they will feel the need to stay out for most of the time. On the scale of this proposal that will lead to a large number of people lingering around the estate with nothing better to do.

I believe that this application can be improved in good time. That time should be spent consulting with local residents groups and stakeholders who are working on the future regeneration of the Alton Estate, Particularly, in regard to how this development can fit into the estate's future plans. It would make it a clearer and more inclusive application.