

How to Object to the Shortlands Farm Development

25/S/00002 | Request for an EIA Screening Opinion under the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended) - Land at Shortland Farm, Guildford Road, Ash, Guildford.

Deadline to respond: Wed 10 Sep 2025

This is the first application placed for this development by Lichfields Planning and Gleeson Land.

1. Register or Login to the planning portal.

You need a Guildford planning portal account to comment on planning applications.

Step-by-step:

- 1. Go to: https://publicaccess.guildford.gov.uk/online-applications/login.jsp
- 2. Either, Log In

Or, **click "Register Here"** If you haven't already got one. This is not the same as your "MyGuildford Account" - it's a separate one for planning comments only.

- a. Fill in your details and confirm your email.
- b. Log in with your new account

If you're having trouble, you can also use these buttons.





2. Find the Application

Once logged in:

- 1. Go to the **Planning Applications** search page.
- 2. Search for the reference: 25/S/00002 or click this link.
- 3. Click the application title to open it.
- 4. Scroll down to "Make a Comment".

3. Writing Your Objection

- **Be Polite** and address the comment to the Case Officer: Kelly Jethwa
- Always make it clear in your first sentence that you <u>object</u> to the development.
- State that you object to **the whole housing scheme**, not just parts of it.
- Also <u>insist</u> that a <u>full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</u> is required before any decision is made.
- The council will give more weight to unique, individual objections.
 Put the impacts in your own words, using your own experiences and observations.

Key Points You Could Include

(Choose the ones that matter most to you: mix them, reword them, add your own perspective.)

Development Scale & Location

- 200 houses will irreversibly change the rural character of Wyke and Ash.
- This is Green Belt land, currently open farmland and green space.



• The scale is completely out of keeping with the village setting.

Ecology & Nature

- The site is just 300m from a Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).
- These protected sites are home to rare and protected species, increased disturbance, recreation pressure, and habitat loss must be assessed.
- Ecological baseline surveys are incomplete, and have not been made public. Decision-making without them is premature.

Heritage & Landscape

- The site forms part of the historic setting for two Grade II listed buildings: York House and East Wyke Farm.
- Building here will erode their rural backdrop and heritage value.
- Views towards the Surrey Hills National Landscape could be affected.

Traffic & Services

- Guildford Road is already congested; 200 houses will add hundreds more cars.
- Local schools, GP surgeries, and other services are already at or beyond capacity.

EIA Requirement

- This is a Schedule 2 urban development project over 150 dwellings,
 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a reasonable requirement for such schemes.
- The Application Document "Environmental impact assessment letter" <u>does not</u>
 <u>sufficiently evidence its claims</u> that there are minimal impacts from the scheme.
 More evidence must be produced and considered before a coherent decision can be made on the EIA screening opinion.
- Proximity to internationally protected habitats makes the risk of significant environmental effects high.



• A full, independent EIA should be carried out before any further consideration.

Example Structure for Your Comment

You could follow a simple 3-part format:

- 1. **Opening:** "I object to the proposed development at Shortlands Farm in its entirety and I insist that a full Environmental Impact Assessment be undertaken before any decision is made."
- 2. **Main Points:** Choose 3–4 from the list above, add your own local knowledge and concerns.
- 3. **Closing:** "Given the scale, location, and potential impacts of this development, I urge the council to reject this proposal and require a full EIA."

4. Submit Your Comment

When happy with your objection:

- Click Submit.
- You should see a confirmation message.

5. Spread the Word

Encourage neighbours, friends, and local groups to object too. Every individual comment counts, even short, personal objections make a difference.

Get further updates and follow our campaign at ResidentsAgainstShortlandsHousing.co.uk