

The Council encourages local residents to have their say in planning matters and anyone can comment on a planning application. In order for your comments to be taken into consideration, they must be received before the end of the consultation period. The expiry date for public comments varies for each application and can be checked via the [online application system](#) by entering the application reference number.

Comments taken into consideration

The Council can only take into account 'material planning considerations' when assessing and determining planning applications. Relevant considerations include, but are not necessarily limited to (the list is give an idea of what we do and don't take into account):

- [planning policies](#);
- [government circulars, orders and statutory instruments](#);
- previous planning decisions (including appeal decisions);
- materials, the design and appearance of the proposed development, and how it would fit in with the character of the area;
- layout and density of buildings;
- impact like noise generated by the proposal.

We cannot take into account

Non-planning related comments, such as those in the following list, are not considered to be valid reasons for objecting to a planning application and you should avoid using these when making your comments:

- loss of property value;
- breach of restrictive covenant;
- loss of trade to a competitor;
- the level of profit a developer might make;
- personal circumstances of the applicant (in most cases);
- Loss of view over other people's land;
- problems arising from the construction period of any works, e.g. noise, dust, construction vehicles, hours of work etc.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please note the following:

- You are responsible for your comments and any statements you make. By submitting comments you are agreeing that you will adhere to our [terms and conditions](#) of use. You must ensure that your comments are not offensive, harmful or of a personal nature; the council reserves the right to remove comments that are offensive or to not display certain documentation for confidentiality or other reasons
- Please state clearly whether you are supporting, objecting to, or making general comments about the application
- All correspondence received in connection with an application will be passed to the case officer
- In accordance with national legislation and guidance, the comments we receive about planning applications, including names and addresses will be made publicly available. We'll make reasonable efforts to remove certain personal details such as telephone numbers, email addresses and signatures prior to information appearing online and recommend you avoid disclosing information of a sensitive nature when submitting your comments
- Your comments must be made via the online register or in writing.
- We cannot accept anonymous comments, you must provide your name and address.
- In the event of a planning appeal any comments received will be copied to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate). If the application type is householder; an application for advertisement consent there will be no opportunity for you to comment as part of the appeals process.

For more information about how we process personal data, please see Planning privacy notice: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/about-your-council/data-protection/service-privacy-notices/planning.aspx

Why isn't my comment on the website?

The quickest and most convenient way to comment on a planning application is to [submit your comments online](#). Comments on applications can also be made in writing. Comments received via post may take longer to process and therefore take longer to be displayed on the council's website.

How will the application be decided?

Decisions are usually delegated, which means that one of our planning officers will make the decision, or the application can be considered by our [Planning Committee](#) together with a report with an officer's recommendation.

Can I appeal the decision?

There are no third-party rights of appeal through the planning system against a decision of a local planning authority. Therefore, if you have concerns about a planning application and permission is granted, you cannot appeal that decision.