



Land to the South of School Lane, Sissinghurst

Swale Borough Council Planning Application 22/505618

Response on University of Kent note (24th January 2023) provided by Newington Parish

Note from Matt Dean (CEO) Lustre and Grant Maly (Managing Director) GEM Air Quality

15th June 2023

The Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent, provided an opinion to Newington Parish Council (dated 24th January 2023) which has been referred to by Newington Parish Council and submitted as part of its response to the planning application. This set out, in detail, why it had concluded that the results of the Air Quality Assessment submitted in support of the application are not representative.

Lustre (the consultants who produced the Air Quality Assessment) have, in combination with GEM Air Quality, a) reviewed these comments and b) reviewed the AQA against the most up-to-date technical guidance (LAQM.TG(22)).

The review is clear that all reasonable efforts have been made to check the performance of the model in line with paragraph 7.558 of LAQM.TG(22), and best practice statistical procedures have been applied to evaluate the performance of the air quality modelling. The conclusions of the review is that the modelling and Air Quality Assessment undertaken is robust. Mid Kent Environmental Health is satisfied with the results of the Assessment.

Fernham Homes are proposing a detailed scheme of mitigation in relation to air quality:

- Electrical vehicle charging points for every dwelling;
- The use of air source heat pumps in place of traditional boilers;
- Welcome packs for new residents, to encourage car sharing and to provide information on public transport;
- A contribution of £13,000 has been agreed in the Section 106. This can be used by SBC towards various measures to mitigate the impact on air quality, including strategic measures alongside Medway Council, or matters such as subsidised public transport journeys
- A contribution of £5,000 for the delivery of e-bikes or similar (to contribute to a total pot of £15,000)

Mid Kent Environmental Protection has raised no objection to the application, and the previous planning application 21/504028/FULL was not refused on air quality grounds.