

From: planningcomments@highpeak.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(HPBC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
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Application Reference No. : HPK/2023/0189

Site Address: High Peak Halls Bridge Street Buxton Derbyshire SK17 6BB Buxton

Comments by: Mark

From:

Hardwick Square
Buxton
Buxton
Derbyshire

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: I object to the change of use from student accommodation to Asylum Dispersal Centre without further consultation within the local community. The application is not transparent and there is no mention of the fundamental nature of the change of use in the covering letter. I believe the university of Derby is only interested in its own financial interests and not of those of the local or wider community. I would like to know what additional resources are to be proposed such as policing, councillors, welfare and mental health officers etc. In the covering letter it states that the previous development (student accommodation) was supported by staff on a 24 hour basis, including a hall manger, caretaker etc, would this level of support be increased?

Because I would have thought the complex needs of the new residents will require additional (not less) support, and would it be provided and paid for by the University of Derby? There are many questions that local people would like to know, not least if it goes ahead what impact in real terms might this proposal have on tourism in the town. Also regarding noise and disruption the letter states that students already congregated in groups and made noise late at night anyway (so there would be no additional impact by the new residents), however, during the day time the students were mostly occupied with studying, the new residents will have nothing other to do than congregate during the daytime and evening in open outdoor spaces (as there is nothing else for them to do in a small town like Buxton) this may impact on those in the local community such as the elderly, vulnerable and others who may not feel comfortable and hence no longer use those outdoor green spaces and other spaces where large groups of asylum seekers will naturally gather together, this could cause an additional strain on the mental health (and services) within the local affected community. I therefore hope that this application will be rejected, a full impact assessment carried out and then let the local people decide what is the best way forward for the town not the University of Derby and the Government behind closed doors.

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