

From: [Planning Comments \(HPBC\)](#) Comment
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Application Reference No. : HPK/2023/0189

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

Comments by: Michael ByrneN/A

From:

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Forest Avenue

Cote Heath

Buxton

SK17 9HE

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: My objection to the planning application is based on the idea that the premises may be used for accommodation for asylum seekers. The application to house ¿ non-students¿ seems to cover a wide range of possibilities including this.

The idea of bringing 250 plus people to the area is not realistic and will put a strain on local services that are already struggling.

Local services are already struggling to meet the needs of existing residents. It is already very difficult to get GP appointments for example. I assume that many people seeking asylum will have physical and mental health needs, may be vulnerable and may not speak English. This immediately raises concerns about extra demand on GP¿s and Adult Social Care, especially if interpreting services will also be required.

The police are already raising concerns about the impact of over 250 people coming to the area who may be vulnerable.

The infrastructure of the town will be unable to meet the needs of the 250 people who may be placed en masse in the building. Local people are already struggling to get the support they need from health, adult social care and housing.

There is a serious accommodation/ housing problem in Buxton. There are few affordable rental properties and many people (especially younger people) will find it difficult to buy property. The premises should be used as accommodation for High Peak residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The experience of local residents trying to access services is already problematic due to lack of resources. The placement of over 250 people in the premises owned by University of Derby will create further difficulties for local people. Local services will also be unable to meet the support needs of 250 people seeking asylum.

I am urging High Peak Borough Council to use the premises to ease the housing problems in the High Peak. The area cannot cope with a large asylum dispersal premises.

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