

From: [Rachel Mosley](#)
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Objection re SMD/2025/0243
Date: 10 September 2025 22:18:39

Objection to Planning Application SMD/2025/0243 – Land East of Manifold Drive and South of Rakeway Road, Cheadle

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to planning application SMD/2025/0243 on the grounds that the proposed development would have a significant negative impact on the mental and emotional health and wellbeing of local residents.

The site currently provides open farmland used for grazing, which is highly valued by the community. Access to natural, open agricultural land is widely recognized as essential for promoting mental and emotional wellbeing. The loss of this farmland would reduce opportunities for outdoor recreation, exercise, social interaction, and connection with nature — all of which are crucial for maintaining healthy lifestyles and managing stress.

Importantly, the majority of current residents on Rakeway have lived here for a very long time, many since the houses were originally built. It is no coincidence that so many people have chosen to remain in this community over 60 years later. This long-term residency reflects the quality of life, sense of security, and wellbeing that the environment provides. Removing the farmland and introducing high-density housing would disrupt the stability and mental wellbeing that have made this community a place people are proud to call home for decades.

We are currently living in a time when mental health and wellbeing are being actively promoted across social media, daily news reports, and national campaigns. Given this societal focus, it is illogical and harmful to remove spaces that directly enhance mental wellbeing, especially when there are undoubtedly more suitable and sustainable sites for housing elsewhere in Staffordshire Moorlands. Destroying valuable farmland for housing in this location would be contrary to the very messages being encouraged to protect and support mental health.

Both NHS England and the World Health Organization (WHO) emphasize the importance of green and open spaces in supporting mental health. NHS guidance notes that access to natural environments helps reduce stress, anxiety, and depression, while WHO research demonstrates that exposure to nature improves cognitive function, emotional resilience, and overall quality of life. Removing this farmland would directly contradict these public health principles.

Furthermore, studies show that proximity to green spaces reduces social isolation,

improves community cohesion, and supports emotional stability — benefits that are especially important for children, the elderly, and vulnerable populations. The permanent loss of this farmland to housing would remove these protective factors, creating long-term negative consequences for the health and wellbeing of residents.

In conclusion, the proposed development represents a threat to the mental and emotional health of the community, particularly for long-standing residents whose wellbeing is closely tied to the current environment. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Council refuse planning application SMD/2025/0243.

Yours faithfully,
Rachel Mosley

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)