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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 August 2026 12:00
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

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Application Reference No. : SMD/2026/0250 Site Address: John Munroe Independent Hospital Reacliffe Road
Rudyard Staffordshire ST13 8RU Leek Comments by: Karen SaltClerk to Horton PC

From:
Horton
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Staffordshire
ST13 8RQ

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Submission: Objection
Comments: HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

2nd August 2026

Application SMD/2026/0250 ħ John Munroe Independent Hospital

Following the meeting held on 28th July 2026, which 45 residents attended to express their concerns, Horton Parish Council resolved to submit their strong objections to the above planning application. The Councillors feel that due to it being in a rural, conservation and greenbelt area, also in proximity to three educational settings for vulnerable children, the proposed application is inappropriate for this site.

There is a lack of clarity regarding the enhanced security of the site. No fencing is on the perimeter at present, nor any floodlighting, and any lighting could be detrimental to bats in particular and cause light pollution to neighboring properties. There are no details of a noise pollution assessment being completed.

The rural location of the site means there are no regular public transport links for staff, meaning an increase in traffic on a rural road which is already busy and congested at times due to the school traffic and used as a cut through from Biddulph to Leek. No clarity has been provided about the increase in staffing or expected traffic movements from staff, private ambulances or security.

There are three neighboring educational settings; Horton Lodge Special School offers residential facilities for its pupils who are particularly vulnerable, Horton St. Michael's First School and Greenwood Growth CIC, who run a Forest school opposite the drive to John Munroe site are for primary aged children. There appears to have been no safeguarding identified in the planning application, or any potential impact on these schools for future pupil intakes.

There is a footpath running adjacent to the site, with only a low stone wall separating it, no details have been given as to how this will be managed.

The local residents are unhappy with the lack of public consultation, lack of site planning notices and properties who have not been notified of the application in writing. Local residents believe building work has continued to take place over the last two years, despite a stop order being put on the property. High Ash, a conservatory has been

demolished and replaced with an extension, The Larches has had an extension completed with no planning approval for either.

The local residents are quite rightly concerned as to how the site would be used if C2A was approved, the applicant does not appear to be currently be involved with any secure hospital and therefore unable to show that they are capable of running such a facility.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Karen Salt

Clerk to Horton Parish Council

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