

Epsom Civic Society

shaping the future, safeguarding the past

Viv Evans
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Town Hall
KT18 5BY

11th April 2021

Dear Viv

Ref - MSCP at Epsom District Hospital 20/00249/FUL Further Objections

The Epsom Civic Society recently submitted a letter of objection for the proposed new multi storey car park, at Epsom General Hospital. The Council informed us by post on the 31st March 2021 that amended plans had been submitted. We have reviewed these alterations and are concerned that the building is even more unsightly than the original proposal.

We suggest that although the revisions may be based on substantial local objection they do little to reduce the overall impact of the height, mass and awful appearance of the block. The adjacent Sports Club continues to have a major privacy and amenity issue with this amended proposal.

The main amendments are as follows:

- **Reduction of the top floor level by 1m height.** This is beneficial excepting that the main access cores remain at the original height. The new block is still 5.6m above the adjacent wing of the hospital.
- **Green living walling has been added to the elevations.** Unfortunately, they are little more than '2m wide strips' and offer only decorative benefits.
- **Removal of the high level perforated panels.** This proposal will assist the aesthetics but have minimal effect on the overall façade vision.

We have reviewed the large amount of strong local objection to this application. Whilst agreeing that additional car parking may be required at our hospital, we are concerned that this proposal is completely out of character with the rest of the hospital and the surrounding CA, Sports Club and residential dwellings.

There are many ways that additional car parking could be provided at the hospital. More of the footprint of the existing car park could be used as a part basement/part superstructure block with red brick facades and substantial green walling. Surely a comprehensive travel plan should have been considered, developed and agreed.

The Epsom Civic Society continue to object to this proposal and suggest that the application is withdrawn pending a design review that is more considerate for this location.

Yours Sincerely,

The Epsom Civic Society (Bob Hollis)

