

HELP PROTECT THE ALDE VALLEY

Have Your Say on the South Saxmundham Planning Application

A major planning application has been submitted for land to the west of the A12 at Saxmundham. It represents the first major industrial incursion into the Alde Valley.

Alongside new housing, the proposal includes a large lorry park, service station and industrial warehouses immediately adjoining the countryside around Benhall, Spirit Studios and the Alde Valley.

Whether you live locally or simply value this landscape, your views matter. The planning authority considers the **content** of comments, rather than simply the number received, so a short, personal response can be just as valuable as a detailed technical objection.

It is especially helpful to describe your own connection with the Alde Valley and why this landscape matters to you, whether as a local resident, a walker, a cyclist, a visitor or someone who values the Suffolk coast. **If you have personal or expert knowledge of the landscape, its wildlife, habitats, flora, heritage or the way people use and enjoy this area, it would be especially valuable to include this in your comments.**

If you attend or participate in cultural events in the area it would be useful to describe your involvement and attendance. Are you a regular visitor? How far do you travel to attend concerts, your assessment of the quality of the cultural events here.

Do you organise any cultural events or festivals? Can you provide economic impact figures, visitor numbers, and social media impact? How many people travel by train to Saxmundham for your event? Can you provide press reviews or public comments to demonstrate the quality of your event?

Planning Application

Reference: DC/26/1490/OUT

Comments can be submitted through East Suffolk Council's Public Access planning website by searching for **DC/26/1490/OUT** or by going to this link

<https://publicaccess.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=TDUDT6QXI9O00>

To make a comment or objection you first need to register with East Suffolk Council

<https://publicaccess.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/registrationWizard.do?action=start&keyVal=TDUDT6QXI9O00&activeTab=makeComment&caseType=Application>

Some Issues You May Wish to Mention

You do **not** need to cover every point. The most valuable comments are those written in your own words.

- The impact of a large lorry park, service station and industrial development on one of Suffolk's most tranquil rural landscapes.
- **The importance of the Alde Valley to the future of Saxmundham and the Heritage Coast.** As major infrastructure projects reshape the Suffolk coast over the coming decades, protecting this landscape will become increasingly important for recreation, tourism, wildlife, wellbeing and the quality of life of residents and visitors alike.
- Increased traffic, noise, lighting and air pollution affecting nearby homes, public footpaths and the surrounding countryside.
- The loss and fragmentation of wildlife habitat, including ancient hedgerows, mature trees and areas used by owls, hares, otters and many other species.
- The effect on the historic setting of Benhall and the character of the western approach to Saxmundham.
- Whether this is the right location for industrial-scale development when alternative employment land already exists.
- The importance of protecting the area's natural beauty, biodiversity and dark skies for future generations.

Tell Your Own Story

The most effective comments are those written from personal experience.

You might like to explain:

- Why you enjoy visiting, walking or cycling in the Alde Valley.
- What makes Benhall and the surrounding countryside special to you.
- Why you believe this landscape is important to the future of Saxmundham and the Heritage Coast.
- Why protecting nature, tranquillity, heritage and local character matters to you and future generations.

Every thoughtful comment helps ensure that local voices are heard.

