

Tracey Crouch MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Paul Ives
Case Officer
Development Control
Medway Council
Gun Wharf
Dock Road
Chatham
Kent ME4 4TR

1 September 2014

Dear Mr Ives

Planning Application: MC/14/2239

I am writing to you with regard to the above planning application.

I have been contacted by a number of constituents who have raised with me their concerns regarding the application.

The key issue of concern is the impact on local businesses on Luton High Street, many of which are established businesses which provide a wide selection of goods to local residents. A Tesco Express would undoubtedly sell the same goods, for more hours of the day, which to my mind would be unnecessary and threaten the businesses already established on the High Street. Also, there is already a large Tesco Superstore in Chatham located 1 mile from the proposed site which further undermines the need for a Tesco Express in the area. I also understand that no Retail Impact Assessment has been carried out, raising local traders' concerns that the impact of this application on their businesses are not fully understood.

Furthermore, there are concerns about the application's impact on the local road infrastructure - Street End Road, Capstone Road and Luton High Street converge at a busy roundabout where the volume of traffic is already high and, notwithstanding the recently suggested improvements, a Tesco Express at the proposed site would obviously increase congestion in the area.

I hope you find these comments helpful and I urge the Council to carefully consider the concerns of local residents regarding this application.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracey Crouch".

TRACEY CROUCH MP