

## Comment on a planning application

### Application Details

**Application:** 22/0902/FUL

**Address:** The Stag Brewery Lower Richmond Road Mortlake London SW14 7ET

**Proposal:** Erection of a three-storey building to provide a new secondary school with sixth form; sports pitch with floodlighting, external MUGA and play space; and associated external works including landscaping, car and cycle parking, new access routes and other associated works

### Comments Made By

**Name:** Mr. Geoffrey Stanton

**Address:** 18 Deanhill Road East Sheen London SW14 7DF

### Comments

**Type of comment:** Object to the proposal

**Comment:** The decision to provide a new secondary school on the site rather than using the opportunity to relocate the badly sited Thompson House Primary school is not justifiable. One of THPS's two separate sites has no outside play space at all. The secondary school was described as "badly needed" when it was proposed several years ago yet the opportunity has not been taken publicly to update the figures for secondary demand produced at that time. The presence of a school of 1,150 pupils (on a site significant smaller than national guidelines require) has also produced pressure to over develop the rest of the site and to not replace the public open space that is lost. It would add significantly to transport problems on the one access road that in any case have not been satisfactorily addressed. In the light of all this it is crucial that the need for the school is kept under review yet predictions have not been updated. It is asserted that the Thames is a barrier to students taking up vacant places on the Twickenham side, even though Catholic students or post-16 students wanting vocational provision already have to cross it to access suitable provision. There is a particular risk to the viability of other local sixth form provision, which requires minimum numbers for subject choice and financial viability that have not yet been reached, and are unlikely to be if there is over-provision. "Just in case" arguments are not acceptable. Assertions have also been made about the unacceptability of any other location in the area (on much larger open spaces) should a school in future be required, but without a detailed analysis being made publicly available.