

**Deputation
on behalf of Havant Climate Alliance and Havant Friends of the Earth
to Planning Committee on 27th May 2021 re.
Planning Application 20/00875 Aura House**

We object to the application to convert this office space to 6 residential flats.
We agree with the recommendation that permission should be refused.

The location is too noisy, sandwiched tightly between the Waterloo/Brighton railway line and New Road. As designed, the flats will have windows on both sides. There is little leeway to change this design.

From the Environmental Impact Assessment, noise levels day and night will be such that specialist glazing and ventilation will be needed to mitigate for this so as to achieve an acceptable internal noise environment. David Fitzgerald, Environmental Protection Manager points out that this means that residents will be unable to open windows for fresh air, increase airflow in summer, or to flush out smells, without being subjected to loud noise. "The development falls well short of providing what should be regarded as an acceptable living standard for its residents".

In addition the Landscape Architect Harry Mitchell states that there is no private residential amenity space contrary to HBC's Design Code. Covid 19 lockdowns have highlighted the importance of people having some outdoor amenity space, even if it is only a (not too noisy) balcony. The flats would provide an oppressive environment for their residents. A number of studies have indicated a link between people living in noisy environments and stress, linked to depression and anxiety, i.e. contrary to peoples' well being.

Patricia Brooks