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I am writing to contest the application for a change of use to a multiple occupation at 26 Sturdon Road BS32BA

I have lived on . My husband and I bought it as a family home and have brought our two children up in this house. Over the years we have witnessed many long-term residents pass away and their homes turned into HMOs As well as a couple of student lets, we now have at least 9 multiple occupancy houses with 6 ensuite bedrooms each.

I would like to object to the application for no 26 on several grounds:

The sense of community in the street suffers greatly - there is a constant turn-around of new renters in the HMO properties and we don't know who are neighbours are. This makes events like street parties impossible. It also makes it harder for the street to galvanise to fight applications such as this. (Our neighbouring street Foxcote Road has no HMOs approved because it has a committee of invested home owners.)

The parking on the street is already at capacity due to the large number of HMO properties. Some have up to 6 vehicles per house. We have one car for our family of four and are often unable to park at all.

There is a housing need for young professionals, but there are currently a lot of affordable apartments and houses in development in the area - a large one behind Aldi on Raleigh Road and another one towards the White City Allotments. There is also a need for family homes and these Victorian terrace houses are unusually spacious for this area making them great for growing families. We are also close to Luckwell primary school which needs more pupils as it is currently undersubscribed.

The developer/builder who has bought this property will only be thinking about the considerable return they will get from 6 people's monthly rent. I urge you to consider the long-term residents on our street instead and reject this application.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Davies

