

PLANNING REF : 261150
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 3 Chetwode Close
: Wokingham, Berkshire
: RG40 2LL
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Guy Kennett
DATE SUBMITTED : 05/07/2026

COMMENTS:

- We live at 3 Chetwode Close which backs onto the front face of the Westmead Unit. Our property also has a border with St Crispin's School who operate air conditioning (a/c) units a few metres from our fence line. We are therefore only too familiar with the problems these units can generate in a residential setting as they are routinely set to keep buildings free from either condensation (internal temperature typically maintained at >12 oC) or overheating (typically <28 oC) at all times (ie 24/7) even during weekends and public holidays. We have therefore endured considerable night-time noise disturbance interrupting our sleep (we have not been able to open our bedroom windows even in summer) and when hoping to enjoy our garden during warm weather. It has proved so intolerable that we have recently paid to have an acoustic enclosure fitted to the offending St Crispin's unit. We are therefore dismayed to see that the plans for the Westmead Unit propose installing four a/c units facing the rear of our property and our bedrooms, and 8 units that will affect the properties in Ellerton Close. The plans claim that these will have no impact on neighbouring properties without providing any further details. While the a/c units facing Ellerton Close are relatively enclosed by walls on 3 sides and will at least be fenced off, those at the front, facing us, have no sound attenuating features whatsoever, as far as we can make out from the plans. We will therefore be fully exposed to their operation. As we know from experience, the Wokingham noise guidelines are generous to the polluter. However, while the sound generated by the a/c units may not be very noticeable during a working day, they become far more intrusive and noticeable when ambient noise is low in the middle of the night and during weekends and bank holidays. We therefore request that the front facing units be relocated to the enclosure containing the other units on the rear side of the building or, if they cannot be relocated, that they be housed in suitable acoustic enclosures.

- We are further concerned that the change of use to a nursery will lead to cars arriving at early hours in the morning to drop off children with attendant motor sounds, slamming doors and boots and raised voices. There is nothing in the plans that state at what time the nursery will open or close and whether this would extend over weekends and holidays, but these details are likely to have considerable impact on the residents of 1a-3 Chetwode Close, although as no 2 Chetwode Close is currently unoccupied they cannot comment. We would therefore request that the unit should not begin receiving children before 8 am. We would also request that the unit not be open during weekends and bank holidays and should not be permitted to use external sound systems or be hired out for outdoor children's parties or other events at these times as this would be very unfair on the residents in what is a residential area not an industrial estate.