

PLANNING REF : 250517
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 14 Century Drive
: Reading, Berkshire
: RG71PE
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Donald Penny
DATE SUBMITTED : 16/03/2026

COMMENTS:

Hi,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed foot and cycle access through Century Drive.

This proposal would significantly increase traffic and safety risks for residents living on Century Drive and Lansdowne Gardens. These two roads currently rely on a single access point to the very busy main road via Spencers Road, which already serves more than 70 homes.

Introducing additional pedestrian and cycle access from a large new development would inevitably increase movement, congestion, and safety concerns in an area that was never designed to accommodate this level of activity.

Over the past five years, more than 400 new homes have already been built on the other side of the main road in Spencers Wood. This has placed considerable strain on the local road network and frequently causes severe congestion on Basingstoke Road towards the M4. Residents already experience daily traffic gridlock, particularly towards M4 Junction 11, as a result of the rapid expansion of housing in Spencers Wood and Shinfield, where an estimated 2,000-3,000 new homes have been built. The existing infrastructure is clearly struggling to cope.

I would also like to highlight the importance of the small playground located near Century Drive. This playground currently serves around 60-70 households in Century Drive and Lansdowne Gardens and represents the only nearby green space for local residents and their children. Allowing additional access from a large new housing development would place excessive pressure on this limited space and lead to significant overcrowding.

Furthermore, the playground is located approximately 20 metres from the busy main road in Spencers Wood and is positioned next to the only access road used by residents of Century Drive and Lansdowne Gardens. Increasing the number of people and vehicles moving through this access point would create a serious and unacceptable safety risk, particularly for young children using the playground. The constant flow of vehicles entering and leaving the area already presents hazards, and the proposed changes would greatly increase the likelihood of accidents.

Residents have lived in this community since 1996 with a road layout designed for a small residential neighbourhood. The proposed access would fundamentally alter the character and safety of the area. The potential risks to residents, particularly children, far outweigh any perceived benefit of providing this access route.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the planning authority to reconsider this proposal and to prioritise the safety, wellbeing, and quality of life of existing residents.

I must also state that the proposal to construct more than 400 additional homes on the nearby farm is deeply concerning and unacceptable given the already severe pressure on local roads, infrastructure, and community spaces.

Yours faithfully,

Century Drive resident