

PLANNING REF : 252430
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Balcombe Lodge
: Spring Lane Swallowfield, Reading, Berkshire
: RG7 1SU
SUBMITTED BY : Dr Paul Thompson
DATE SUBMITTED : 17/11/2025

COMMENTS:

We Dr Paul Thompson & Mrs Evreth Thompson, wish to object to the planning application for permission of 79 homes on land south of Foxborough east of Trowes Lane, Swallowfield (Ref 252430)

Reasons for Objection

After reviewing the plans, we believe they do not align with the criteria that Wokingham Borough Council and the Planning Inspectorate would consider relevant when determining a planning application of this size and scope.

Local GP Surgery Capacity: Demand on public services, especially general practitioner (GP) services, is a significant factor that must be addressed in planning processes. Many planning proposals face opposition due to concerns about inadequate infrastructure, which is already at capacity. Introducing 79 new homes into the community will inevitably increase the strain on a GP service that is already struggling to meet the needs of its current patients. This situation raises important questions about local healthcare's ability to accommodate a growing population effectively.

Location Outside Catchment Areas and Lack of Public Transport: Wokingham's planning policies are thoughtfully designed to encourage sustainable transportation methods and reduce the necessity for frequent travel. However, the current absence of reliable public transport options to vital services and facilities is a significant concern. This limitation not only increases dependence on private vehicles but also undermines the core objectives of local planning initiatives aimed at fostering accessibility and environmental sustainability. This particular planning application stands to intensify these challenges further, making it increasingly difficult for residents to access essential amenities without resorting to car travel.

Highway safety standards are vital to maintaining safe and efficient traffic conditions. The proposed development raises significant concerns, as it could adversely affect highway safety and pose hazards to cyclists and pedestrians. The potential for increased traffic congestion and reduced visibility in critical areas further heightens these concerns. Given these substantial risks, there are strong grounds to refuse this development on public safety grounds.