

PLANNING REF : 250543
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Greenwood Grove
: Winnersh
: RG41 5LH
SUBMITTED BY : Mr k Sah
DATE SUBMITTED : 21/03/2025

COMMENTS:

I am writing to object and share my concerns about the proposed development of a religious center in Winnersh. My intention is to highlight genuine considerations aimed at preserving the well-being, harmony, and character of our community.

Winnersh has long been established as a business and family-oriented area, appreciated for its balanced environment that supports both economic growth and quality of life. Maintaining this character is essential to ensure that the broader community's interests are ritized.

I have come across comments referencing the growing population and the perceived need for additional places of worship, along with mentions of the UK's commitment to inclusivity and diversity. While promoting inclusivity is undoubtedly important, it is equally essential to recognize that there are already several religious facilities within a 5-mile radius serving various faith communities. Additionally, it is not uncommon for individuals to travel considerable distances to attend religious services or utilize existing facilities, which many choose to do as part of their religious practice. Furthermore, many individuals are able to fulfil their spiritual needs within their homes, a respected and meaningful practice.

It is worth noting that if the council begins approving religious centers for all growing faith populations, it could place significant strain on community resources and planning efforts. Winnersh already has community centers with rentable halls available for gatherings, which effectively meet community needs while also providing financial support to the council.

Moreover, with additional housing developments already planned for the area, there are likely to be increases in traffic, noise levels, and pressure on local infrastructure. Considering the financial challenges reportedly faced by the council, these added pressures may negatively impact community resources and residents' well-being. I respectfully suggest that efforts be directed toward attracting businesses such as Halfords, Wickes, or similar commercial establishments that can generate employment opportunities and contribute positively to the local economy. Such development would better serve the broader community's interests and support sustainable growth.

Thank you for considering these concerns. I hope that any future development plans will thoughtfully prioritize what best serves the broader interests of the Winnersh community.

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