

PLANNING REF : 250543  
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 36 Sandstone Close  
: Wokingham, Berkshire  
: RG41 5XS  
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs C O  
DATE SUBMITTED : 21/03/2025

COMMENTS:

I hereby submit my strong formal objection to the proposed Islamic Community Centre application, citing several critical material planning considerations that warrant serious examination:

Traffic Safety and Infrastructure

The proposed location and access only has one exit and entry to and from Reading Road which poses significant traffic safety hazards for the below reasoning.

1. There's already existing severe congestion patterns
2. Insufficient infrastructure to accommodate current vehicle usage especially with the new houses planned for the area let alone increase vehicle usage.
3. Potential dangerous conditions for pedestrians, cars and cyclist with queuing and merging into traffic. They can only go one way however if you review Sainsburys exit to Kings Street Lane, you will notice cars do not adhere to left turn only and will turn right with their being close calls to other road users, cyclists and Pedestrians.

The allocated parking spaces are demonstrably insufficient for such a request. This will lead to

- o Unavoidable overflow parking in adjacent commercial lots.
  - o Increased risk of illegal parking practices.
  - o Predictable conflicts with neighbouring businesses (Halfords, Pets at Home and Wickes)
  - o People will not walk to this centre as will attract people from further afield - adding further traffic to the road and therefore parking would be a bigger issue.
- On the comments page - noticed one supporting from Crowthorne which whilst is not a huge distance, they would not be able to walk nor use unreliable public transport to attend especially with prayer times.
- o Reduced safety for pedestrians and vehicles.

The development could cause disruption to existing businesses as would impact customers being access the businesses, limited parking and have a high impact for conflict.

The close proximity to the Sikh Centre raises legitimate concerns regarding potential religious conflict, interfaith tensions and community relations strained.