

PLANNING REF : 250543
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Greenwood Grove
:
: RG41 5LH
SUBMITTED BY : Mr K Shah
DATE SUBMITTED : 22/03/2025

COMMENTS:

I strongly object to this proposal and urge decision-makers to consider its impact on the wider community rather than focusing solely on the needs of one group.

Many supporters of this proposal cite population size as a justification for a religious centre. However, this itself highlights why a religious centre in Winnersh or its surrounding areas would not be suitable. The local community and business centre would be disrupted, leading to increased traffic, noise, and strain on local resources, ultimately impacting residents, businesses, and council services.

In the long term, Winnersh may become less appealing to big businesses looking to establish offices, potentially leading to higher unemployment rates and a rise in illegal activities, which would impact both current and future generations.

If every faith group were to request separate centres, the area could become overcrowded, losing its character and cohesiveness. Similar developments elsewhere have caused infrastructure strain and social divisions, which Winnersh should aim to avoid.

As a taxpayer, I expect the council to manage developments in a way that generate employment for the current and future generation . Future applications for any religious centres, educational institutions linked to religious groups, or places of worship , or community centre in the name of religion , should be transparently communicated to the local community through post or email, as was done with the Aldi application. This ensures residents have the opportunity to voice their opinions and helps the council make well-informed decisions that reflect the needs of the entire community.

If faith-based groups require space, they should make use of existing community centres or publicly available rental facilities rather than establishing new developments that could alter the area's character. This approach ensures fairness while protecting the long-term interests of all residents.

Note: Large-scale religious developments often start small but can expand over time, significantly altering the nature of an area and affecting long-term residents. Such changes can disrupt the local community, potentially forcing people to relocate. Winnersh should remain a balanced, inclusive, and welcoming place for all its residents.`