

PLANNING REF : 262274
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 4 Larch Court
: Balmore Park, Caversham, Reading
: RG4 8PY
SUBMITTED BY : Ms Rebecca Fearnley
DATE SUBMITTED : 13/10/2026

COMMENTS:

I strongly object to this planning proposal because of its reliance on fossil fuels. It represents a high-carbon development that is at odds with our governments proposed strategy to reduce emissions and reliance on fossil fuels. There is also no secure transition plan away from the use of gas to power this data centre.

I also object because the proposed data centre will produce significant noise, 24-hours per day, significantly impacting nearby communities and local wildlife. There is significant evidence that noise such as that produced by machinery, plants, and data centres, can negatively impact human wellbeing, disturbing sleep and damaging mental health. The Environmental Statement recognises that this development has the potential to generate permanent, uninterrupted noise pollution, which can significantly lower the living standards of nearby communities.

I further object on ecological grounds, as the Preliminary Ecology Appraisal records woodland birds, bats, amphibians, and wildlife corridors associated with the site and the surrounding area. Development of this site could have significant, long-lasting, negative impacts on this wildlife, and the habitat it relies on. Given that the data centre development is proposed for development near a nature reserve, this should carry significant weight. The proposal's ecological impact should be measured cumulatively, including light pollution, noise pollution, emissions, heat, drainage, construction disturbance, and the continued impact on the area from the ongoing nature of some of these effects.

I also object on the grounds that net 10% biodiversity gain remains uncertain, especially as the noise, heat, light, and greenhouse gas emissions from the data centre will continue long after development and continue to impact the behaviour, wellbeing, and therefore diversity, of wildlife in the local area. The 11.53% suggested gain shown in the Net Gain Assessment leaves little margin if delivery assumptions fail.

I am deeply concerned by the long-term, negative impact this data centre development is likely to have on the local community, the nature reserves, and the local ecology, for what seems to be little to no advantage to the local community. I therefore object in the strongest terms to this proposal.