

PLANNING REF : 250543
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 413A Reading Road
: Wokingham, Berkshire
: RG41 5HU
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Max Jadav
DATE SUBMITTED : 01/04/2025

COMMENTS:

Dear Planning Officer,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed planning application for the change of use from a small office to an Islamic Learning and Worship Centre on Reading Road. While I fully respect the need for places of worship, this location is unsuitable due to the significant impact it will have on traffic, parking, local businesses, and community safety.

1. Traffic Congestion & Safety Risks

Reading Road is a key emergency route and a busy thoroughfare. The proposed development, with little off-street parking provision, will lead to congestion and increase the risk of accidents for both pedestrians and motorists. The likelihood of unauthorised parking, including double parking, will further exacerbate safety hazards.

2. Disruption to Local Businesses & Residents

Increased traffic and limited parking will negatively affect local businesses by reducing accessibility for customers and deliveries. Additionally, noise and disruption from increased activity, particularly at peak times, will impact nearby residents.

3. Inadequate Parking Provision

Unlike the recently approved Sikh Community Centre in the same area, which includes off-street parking and access, this proposal fails to adequately address parking needs. Without proper on-site parking facilities, the overflow of vehicles will lead to road congestion and possible obstruction of emergency routes.

4. Need for a Suitable and Sustainable Location

Any place of worship should be located in an area where it does not compromise traffic flow, emergency access, or the well-being of residents and businesses. Adequate parking, escape routes and infrastructure must be in place to ensure minimal disruption to the local community.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the planning committee to reject this application or require substantial modifications to address these concerns effectively.