From: [redacted]
To: Crown Casework
Subject: FORMAL OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED USE OF THE MOD SITE AT PIDDINGTON FOR MIGRANT ACCOMMODATION
Date: 07 September 2026 12:53:16

[redacted]

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed use of the MOD site at Piddington for the accommodation of approximately 1,250 asylum seekers.

I believe the proposal raises significant concerns regarding proportionality, infrastructure, public services, transport, safety and the suitability of the site. I respectfully request that these matters are fully assessed and considered before any decision is made.

1. Scale of the proposed site

Piddington has a population of fewer than 400 residents, yet the proposal would accommodate approximately 1,250 asylum seekers. This represents an extremely significant increase in the number of people living in or immediately around the village. The suitability of the proposal should therefore be considered not simply in terms of whether the site is physically capable of containing this number of people, but whether such a substantial increase is proportionate and appropriate given the size and character of the existing community and the capacity of the surrounding infrastructure.

As far as I am aware, no comprehensive risk or impact assessment has been made publicly available which demonstrates how the potential consequences of such a substantial increase in population have been assessed and mitigated.

2. Lack of local facilities and transport

Piddington has very limited local facilities. There is no shop and there is no regular public transport serving the site. There are also no pavements or street lighting along the road outside the proposed site.

The road itself is winding, has limited visibility in places and has a 60 mph speed limit. This raises obvious concerns about pedestrian safety, particularly if residents need to leave the site at times when organised transport is not available.

I understand that transport from the site is proposed to operate at limited times during the day. However, residents should not be placed in a position where leaving the site on foot presents a significant safety risk because of the lack of pavements, lighting and suitable pedestrian infrastructure.

The impact of these factors on both the residents of the proposed accommodation and existing road users should be properly assessed.

3. Pressure on healthcare and public services

It should not be assumed that existing local services have sufficient capacity to absorb such a substantial increase in population.

Although I understand that the proposed accommodation may be intended to provide

a degree of on-site support and self-sufficiency, there will inevitably be circumstances in which residents require access to services outside the site, including GPs, dentists, pharmacies, hospitals and emergency services.

It is therefore important to establish whether the relevant local services have sufficient capacity and whether appropriate additional funding will be provided to address any increased demand.

The assessment should consider not only the availability of services but also the additional financial and operational pressure that may be placed upon them.

4. Impact on neighbouring communities

Piddington has very few local facilities. Consequently, residents accommodated at the site are likely to depend upon services and facilities in surrounding towns and villages. The impact assessment should therefore extend beyond Piddington itself and consider the wider area, including the potential effects on neighbouring communities, local transport networks, healthcare provision, shops, pharmacies, emergency services and other public facilities.

A proposal of this scale should be assessed in terms of its wider regional impact rather than considering the site in isolation.

5. Suitability of the site

The suitability assessment should take into account the whole environment in which people would be living, rather than simply the physical capacity of the site.

This should include consideration of:

- transport availability and accessibility;
- pedestrian safety and infrastructure;
- road conditions and speed limits;
- lighting;
- access to shops and other essential facilities;
- healthcare and emergency services;
- recreational opportunities;
- access to support services; and
- the impact on surrounding communities.

A site which is physically capable of accommodating a large number of people is not necessarily a suitable location for accommodating them at this scale.

6. Proximity to HMP Bullingdon and security considerations

The proposed site is also in close proximity to HMP Bullingdon. This raises additional security concerns which I believe should be properly assessed.

In particular, consideration should be given to the potential for drones or other objects to be launched from the site towards the prison grounds. I am not suggesting that asylum seekers are criminals, nor am I making assumptions about the behaviour of individuals who may be accommodated there. My concern is that the security assessment should account for the physical proximity of the two sites and the potential security risks that could arise from this arrangement.

Site security measures should therefore be assessed to establish whether they are sufficient to monitor and control the entire site and to mitigate any foreseeable risks to the neighbouring prison.

Conclusion

I respectfully request that the proposed use of the Piddington MOD site is reconsidered and refused, or that an alternative and more proportionate location is identified.

At a minimum, I believe that a comprehensive assessment of the proposal's impact on Piddington and the surrounding communities should be undertaken and made available before any decision is made.

I respectfully ask that this objection is formally recorded and fully considered as part of the decision-making process.

Yours faithfully,

