[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 10 September 2026 02:10
To: Crown Casework
Subject: Application 26/01833

Categories: [redacted]

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Objection to Planning Application 26/01833/CROWN – MOD Bicester Site A

To: The Secretary of State

I am writing to formally object to planning application 26/01833/CROWN, concerning the proposed temporary change of use of MOD Bicester Site A for asylum accommodation for up to 1,256 people.

I respectfully ask that the application be refused.

My objection is based on the suitability and capacity of the site and the potential impacts of a development of this scale on the surrounding area.

1. Scale and suitability of the development

The proposed accommodation would represent a very substantial concentration of people on a former military site outside the built-up area. I am concerned that the applicant has not adequately demonstrated that this location is capable of supporting a development of this scale for the proposed ten-year period.

The Government's own description confirms that the proposal involves not simply accommodation, but significant associated infrastructure, including roads, access ways, security infrastructure, parking, staff facilities, health and welfare facilities, wastewater treatment and recreational areas. GOV.UK

The cumulative impact of all these elements needs to be properly assessed before permission is granted.

2. Transport and highway safety

I have concerns about the effect of the proposal on local roads and junctions, particularly given the scale of the proposed population and the location of the site.

The application should demonstrate, with robust evidence, that existing roads, pedestrian routes and public transport facilities can safely accommodate the additional movements associated with residents, staff, visitors, deliveries, emergency services and other operational traffic.

I am particularly concerned about pedestrian safety and access for residents and other road users in the surrounding villages and on routes connecting the site with Bicester.

3. Pressure on local infrastructure and services

Although facilities are proposed on the site, there will inevitably be interaction with services and infrastructure outside it.

I ask that proper evidence be provided regarding the capacity of local healthcare, emergency services, utilities, waste services, transport infrastructure and other essential services to accommodate the additional demand.

The scale of the proposal makes this an important planning consideration.

4. Drainage, flooding and wastewater

I am concerned about whether the existing site and proposed infrastructure can adequately deal with surface water, foul water and wastewater over the lifetime of the development.

Given the scale of the proposed accommodation, the wastewater treatment and drainage arrangements require particularly careful scrutiny.
I ask that planning permission not be granted until the relevant drainage, flooding and wastewater evidence has been fully assessed and any necessary mitigation secured.
5. Contamination and ground conditions
The former military use of the site means that ground conditions and potential contamination require careful consideration.
I ask that the applicant demonstrate conclusively that the land is suitable for the proposed use and that any contamination risks have been properly investigated and addressed before occupation.
6. Ecology and environmental impact
I am also concerned about the potential impact on wildlife, habitats and the surrounding countryside.
The environmental information should be sufficiently comprehensive to establish the effects of the development, including construction, lighting, traffic, drainage, noise and the long-term operation of the site.
Any outstanding ecological surveys or assessments should be completed before a decision is made.
7. Emergency services and public safety infrastructure
The scale and relatively self-contained nature of the proposed development means that emergency response arrangements need to be exceptionally robust.
I ask that the Secretary of State be satisfied that fire, ambulance, police and other emergency services have been properly consulted and that appropriate infrastructure and access arrangements will be available.
8. Temporary nature of the proposal
Although described as temporary, the proposed period of 10 years is substantial.
I therefore do not believe that the proposal should be treated as a short-term or insignificant change of use. The impacts on the local area over a decade need to be assessed as such, including what happens at the end of the temporary permission.
I also ask that clear arrangements be established for the eventual decommissioning and restoration of the site.

Conclusion
I recognise that the Government needs to provide accommodation for people seeking asylum. However, that does not remove the need to demonstrate that a particular site is appropriate and that the development can operate without unacceptable impacts on the surrounding area.

In my view, the current proposal has not adequately demonstrated that MOD Bicester Site A is suitable for a development of this scale.

I therefore respectfully request that planning application 26/01833/CROWN be refused.
If the Secretary of State is nevertheless minded to approve the application, I ask that approval be withheld until all outstanding matters concerning highways, pedestrian safety, drainage, flooding, wastewater, contamination, ecology, emergency services, infrastructure, noise, lighting and decommissioning have been fully investigated, independently assessed where appropriate, and secured through enforceable planning conditions.

Thank you for considering my representation.

Yours faithfully,
Maurice Daly
[redacted]

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