From: [redacted]
To: Crown Casework
Cc: calum.miller.mp@communities.gov.uk; clerk@piddingtonoxfordshire.org.uk
Subject: Representation on Application Ref: PCU/RARE/C3105/3378843 (MOD Bicester Site A)
Date: 15 September 2026 14:51:58
Importance: High

[redacted] Learn why this is important

Dear Crown Casework Team,

I am writing to submit a formal objection to planning application PCU/RARE/C3105/3378843 regarding the proposed 10-year temporary change of use for asylum accommodation at MOD Bicester Site A.

I write not from abstract theory, but from direct lived experience. [redacted] Bicester proposal mirrors.

Having lived through this system, spoken extensively with [redacted] residents, and observed the breakdown of both logistics and community cohesion firsthand.

I urge the Secretary of State to reject this application based on the following operational and planning realities:

1. The Harm of Rural Isolation on Processing and Humanity

The fundamental goal of an asylum intake system must be rapid, decisive, and fair processing: establishing identity, vetting security, determining who requires protection, and integrating or returning individuals without delay.

Dropping up to 1,256 people into an isolated, decommissioned military base achieves the exact opposite:

- Psychological Warehouse Effect: Confining hundreds of traumatised people on an old military garrison creates profound institutional anxiety. It feels like containment, not processing.
- Isolation creates a state of mind where a refugees often feels the worst of their life as asylum seekers, they will be crushed over the burden of isolation and constant co-surveillance that wont gave them the room to breath and truly express their life stories.
- Loss of Basic Autonomy: In [redacted] the sheer isolation left residents with nothing to do, no civic structure, and no ability to engage positively with society. It produces acute boredom, depression, and tension among residents who are desperate for clarity on their legal status.

2. The Unavoidable Rupture of Local Rural Life

Civil servants routinely present these bases as "self-contained." They never are:

- The Reality of Daily Needs: **Residents are non-detained, And They need:** groceries, phone top-ups, legal advice, fresh air, and medical appointments.
- The Scale Inversion: In the [redacted] was a town of roughly 9,000 people with supermarkets, a regional bus hub, municipal doctors, and local police. Even then, the concentration of people completely overwhelmed the town, turning local goodwill into bitter resentment and exhaustion.
- [redacted] is also quite isolated from the main village about 45min walk along side the highway roads.
- Piddington has approximately 350 residents. Placing over 1,200 adult men a **15-minute walk** down unlit, single-track country roads with zero pavements or rural infrastructure will destabilise the hamlet entirely. It sets both the local villagers and the asylum seekers up for inevitable friction.

3. A Failed Short-Term "**Blindfold**" That Becomes Permanent

The UK government is attempting to replace costly hotel placements with isolated rural camps. However, as the [redacted] experience has proven over years of court battles and state fines:

- Concentrated intake hubs do not speed up asylum decisions; they simply hide the backlog from city centres.
- Once established, "temporary transit" quickly turns into indefinite stagnation. The Dutch state repeatedly promised [redacted] was temporary but years later, **it remains an unresolved crisis hub that costs far more in emergency policing**, judicial fines, and transport logistics than decentralised processing ever would.

Conclusion

True asylum reform requires administrative speed, competent case handling, and coordinated regional integration—not building rural holding depots on old army bases. Creating a segregated, high-capacity compound in a rural parish will solve none of the Home Office’s processing challenges while inflicting lasting damage on both the local community and the vulnerable individuals placed there.

I strongly urge the Secretary of State to refuse planning permission for this site.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]