From: [redacted]
To: Crown Casework
Cc: calum.miller.mp@parliament.uk; wpwsobjection@gmail.com
Subject: Objection to planning application PCU/RARE/C3105/3378843, Site A, MOD Bicester
Date: 16 September 2026 15:13:01

[redacted]

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing as a member of the public to object to planning application PCU/RARE/C3105/3378843, the proposed 1,256-person asylum accommodation centre at Site A, MOD Bicester, Bicester Garrison, Launton Road, Oxfordshire, OX25 1AE.

I ask that planning permission be refused.

I have concerns about the completeness of the application documentation available for the public and interested parties to review. Important ecological and technical work remains outstanding, and significant questions remain around fire safety, service infrastructure, ground conditions and the suitability of the site.

I am particularly concerned that ground contamination has not been fully investigated. Previous land-quality work identified potential contamination issues, yet no borehole investigation has been carried out to resolve those risks.

There are also significant flooding and drainage concerns. Parts of the site are at high risk of surface-water flooding and aspects of the drainage strategy remain unresolved.

The transport assesment makes it plain that this is not an open accomodation facility but a semi secure facility since the bus service referred to is only for management staff use, not for residents, and the local bus service is not suitable in cost or frequency for 'destitute' immigrants.

The application has not even outlined a permanent solution for essential infrastructure such as electricity and potable and wastewater. As the infrastructure in the area already does not adequately serve the needs of the recent rapid and proposed future development in the Cherwell District I do not believe a development accommodating up to 1,256 people should be approved while such fundamental matters remain unresolved.

The proximity of a further secure facility adjacent to Bullingdon Prison which suffers from intra-inmate violence problems is not addressed. In particular how the appointed Operator is going to be able to attract sufficient staff of an appropriate calibre to avoid similar problems with a large population of disaffected single male residents. Isolation and lack of money are problems for such a population.

I am concerned that the extremely short representation period does not provide sufficient time for residents, councils and technical specialists to properly examine such a substantial and complicated application. The application documents run to well over 1,000 pages across multiple technical disciplines, and is heavily redacted, so it is not reasonable to expect them to be read and properly considered in so short a time. Ordinary planning applications carry a minimum 21 day period, and the standard

Crown Development route prescribes 21 days at every stage, so I ask that the representation period be extended to at least 21 days from 7 September 2026, to Monday 28 September 2026, since the 21st day falls on a Sunday.

This site has also previously been considered for asylum accommodation. That application resulted in the appointment of a Design and Construct contractor and was subsequently cacelled as construction was about to commence on site. That proposal was refused by an independent Planning Inspector before subsequently being cancelled. The National Audit Office have susequently issued a report concluding it was bad value for money. This proposal is similar.

Immigration centres have long been beset with problems aside from local oppostion, Cooped up in what must seem like a prison to the inmates for long periods results in the problems for those operating the facilities such as the fire at Yarls Wood Hemel Hempstead in February 2002 where an unknown number of immigrants lost their lives, the riot in Harmondsworth Detention Centre in July 2004 with loss of life , a facility which continues to have problems with violence, vandalism etc.
Oxfordshire, more specifically Kidlington already has an immigration camp, only just reopened last year, for 160 inmates to be expanded further to 400 almost doubling its original capacity. Originaly closed in 2018 due to local opposition, escapes and riots.

The application does not address the question where the Assylum applications for the residents will be heard, The previous iteration of the accomodation centre on this site incorporated two courtrooms which were not really of sufficient capacity for the proposed population . This proposal has none, only 'Business rooms'. The Judicial system within Oxfordshre, and elsewhere in the UK, operates with a significant backlog but the proposal does not mention how this will be addressed.

Taken together, these issues mean I do not believe the applicant has demonstrated that Site A is a suitable location for a development of this type and scale.

I therefore respectfully request that planning permission be refused.

If the Secretary of State is nevertheless minded to approve the application, I ask that no decision is made until outstanding work concerning drainage, flooding, potable and wastewater, contamination, ecology, highways, pedestrian safety, power supply, lighting, noise, fire safety and decommissioning has been completed and made available unredacted for proper scrutiny.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]