



## Caversham and District Residents Association

11 March 2022

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP,  
Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental  
Relations,  
Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities,  
2 Marsham Street,  
London,  
SW1P 4DF.

Dear Secretary of State

I am writing in support of the letter of 28 February 2022 from Clarence Mitchell, Ward Councillor for Peppard on Reading Borough Council (RBC) requesting that a highly controversial planning application for 223 homes to be built on a significant greenfield space (RBC Planning Ref No 211843) be called-in for your consideration.

Our association was formed 55 years ago and routinely reviews all significant local planning applications, sending support, comment, or objection as appropriate. The level of local concern over this particular application is unprecedented. The short notice of the committee date, the failure to recognise concerns raised and the abrupt change in stance is a matter of considerable concern. The financial payments offered by the developer cannot and should not justify this turnaround.

The Reading Local Plan was brought together with care after local consultation. It reflected the real need for local sports facilities, the limitation of local infrastructure to support major developments and the important landscape and environmental issues. We dispute the view of the Council that it should now be set aside.

I attach the summary which this association provided for members of the Planning Applications Committee, set out our reasoning for refusal.

We ask you to support the request for call-in.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Helen Lambert  
Chair of the Caversham and District Residents Association.

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