



Re planning application RU17/0488, Egham Leisure Centre

The Egham Residents' Association rarely makes representations on planning applications outside the Egham Town ward. This is one of the exceptions. And our decision to make it reflects the fact that the Egham Leisure Centre is commonly regarded in the town as being in Egham – as its name underlines – notwithstanding the fact that it is in the Thorpe electoral ward of RBC.

In principle we are very much in favour of the proposed new leisure centre. It plainly offers a big improvement in sporting facilities, including a swimming pool, and this is to be applauded.

The building is moreover, striking. But whereas some will find this exciting and laudable, others will take a conservative and unfavourable view. It stands to make a big difference to the appearance of Vicarage Road.

Further to this: Is it not possible that the proposed building could be re-positioned so that it fits in between the existing building and the M25? We have looked at the proposed site plan and it is not obvious why that could not be done. Were that change to be made, many of the concerns and doubts being expressed in the Vicarage Road vicinity could surely be assuaged.

We are aware that there are particular concerns about the implications of the proposed new service road, and the proposed siting of a sub-station at the Vicarage Road end of it, and we trust these matters will also be looked at with a possibility of amendment and mitigation.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Fisher

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