



Windlesham Parish Council

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The Council Offices
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GU18 5RG

30th September 2024

Tim Oliver,
Leader of Surrey County Council,
Surrey County Council,
Penrhyn Road,
Kingston upon Thames,
KT1 2DN

Dear Councillor Oliver,

Re: Objection to the Proposed Closure of Swift Lane Community Recycling Centre

I am writing to you on behalf of Windlesham Parish Council to express their strong objection to the proposed closure of the Swift Lane Community Recycling Centre (CRC). This decision has raised significant concerns within our community, and we urge Surrey County Council to reconsider this proposal for the following reasons:

1. Increased Pressure on Camberley CRC:

The closure of Swift Lane will inevitably result in longer queues and increased congestion at the Camberley CRC, which is already a busy facility. Many local residents regularly use Swift Lane, and its closure would put additional strain on the remaining site. This would not only inconvenience residents but also create a significant impact on local traffic and increase waiting times.

2. Fly-tipping Concerns:

A reduction in available recycling facilities could lead to an increase in illegal fly-tipping, which has a detrimental effect on our local environment. Swift Lane provides a crucial service for responsible waste disposal, and removing this option could inadvertently encourage irresponsible behaviour, resulting in higher clean-up costs for the council and environmental damage to our community.

3. Usage by Local Residents:

Swift Lane CRC is widely used by residents in the surrounding areas. Its central location serves a large catchment, and its closure would disproportionately affect local people, particularly those without the means to travel further distances to other recycling centres. This would also impact those who rely on this facility for the convenient disposal of household waste and recycling.

We understand the financial pressures faced by local authorities; however, we believe that the closure of Swift Lane will have long-term negative effects that far outweigh any short-term

savings. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss potential alternatives that could ensure the continued operation of this vital service for our community.

The Parish Council respectfully requests that Surrey County Council reconsiders the closure of Swift Lane CRC and explores alternative solutions to maintain this essential facility.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Joanna Whitfield', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joanna Whitfield
Clerk to the Council