

Comments for Planning Application 142775/FO/2025

Application Summary

Application Number: 142775/FO/2025

Address: Lidl Food Store 263 Wilmslow Road Manchester M14 5LN

Proposal: Erection of discount food store (Use Class E) with associated car parking and landscaping.

Case Officer: Steven McCoombe

Customer Details

Name: Not Available

Address: Not Available

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of the Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: As a city centre resident who cycles to work daily at a local school, I strongly object to this proposal. The current plans fail to support a safe and sustainable environment for pedestrians and cyclists, and they undermine the principles of good urban design. My specific concerns are as follows:

1. Inactive and Car-Dominated Frontage

The proposed building is set far back behind a large car park, resulting in a lifeless and uninviting street edge. This design contradicts Core Strategy Policy DC14 and the GM Streets for All Guide, both of which stress the importance of active, pedestrian-friendly frontages. This approach not only harms the character of the area but also reinforces a car-first mentality that disadvantages those of us who travel on foot or by bike.

2. Overprovision of Parking in a Well-Connected Area

Given the site's excellent access to public transport, walking and cycling routes, the volume of parking proposed is excessive and unjustified. It conflicts with Policy T1 and TfGM's Travel Choices Strategy, which are intended to support sustainable, low-carbon travel. I regularly navigate roads that are already difficult and unsafe for cyclists-this proposal would only worsen those conditions.

3. Undermining Climate and Place-Making Objectives

Manchester has clear commitments to place-making and reducing carbon emissions, including the 2038 zero-carbon target. A development that prioritises cars over people directly undermines these ambitions. The dominance of parking over public realm also runs counter to the objectives laid out in the Local Plan Issues Consultation 2020.

This proposal should be rethought to reduce car parking, shift the building closer to the street edge, and create a safe, active frontage that genuinely supports walking and cycling. As someone who experiences the risks of car-oriented design every day, I believe this is an opportunity to create a healthier, more liveable city.