

STOP THE DATA CENTRE – PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY



What Is a Data Centre?

It is a building housing computer servers, operating **24 hours** a day, **365 days** a year, requiring backup diesel generators.

Why We Should Be Concerned?

The developers have bought land in SE7 7TE, greater in size than Charlton Stadium. We oppose this proposal as it will have a negative impact for the whole of Charlton: **You could say, it is the wrong development in the wrong place.**

Height: 10 industrial storeys high (28-30 metres) it will be extremely overbearing on Charlton Riverside, including blocking views from upper Charlton.



Noise: Data Centres use equipment which creates continuous noise disturbance. On top of humming from the 17-metre-high sub-station there are also noisy backup generators for testing and power outages. Residents will experience disturbed sleep and reduced enjoyment of outdoor spaces from constant noise pollution. The humming will potentially be heard as far away as Charlton Village.

Scan to hear the noise — jumps to 0:55.



Enormous energy demand: Hyperscale data centres consume enormous amounts of energy, equivalent to that of a small city! This will increase as demand grows. Residents' concerns are power disruptions and the burden on local electricity supplies in periods of high use.

Environmental impact: Excess heat emitted creates a "heat island." A 2026 multi-institution study led by University of Cambridge researchers found AI data centres **typically raise local surface temperatures by around 2°C, with some sites experiencing far greater increases.** In spite of the words of the developers, the **micro-climate will not benefit anyone now living in Charlton.**



Scan to read the study.

We are concerned about the risks to the current and future health of everyone living in Charlton. Also, the threat of leakage of the vast quantity of "forever chemicals" they would use as coolants?

Protecting our environment should remain a planning priority.

The Loss of Community Character: The building they propose is gigantic. It will be at odds with the heritage and character of the socio-philanthropic dockworkers conservation area of Atlas and Derrick Gardens. Its monolithic appearance, security fencing, and lighting is unattractive and unwelcoming.

In fact, the character of Charlton can be both seen and felt in the conservation area of Atlas and Derrick Gardens, SE7, which has survived through two world wars, flooding in the '70's and the regular waves of non-descript tower block building in London. **Our values of philanthropy, inclusion and resilience should not be lost to a towering hyperscale data centre that fails to integrate.**

What we are asking for

A better location: Greenwich Council should listen to residents. There **are better locations** for a hyperscale data centre outside of London which would reduce the impact on families and homes.

A Better Future for Everyone:

Supporting technological progress does **not** mean every location is appropriate for data centre development. Residential communities should remain places where families can have a sense of belonging and enjoy peace, safety and clean surroundings.

Say YES to Responsible Planning - Say YES to Our Community Say NO to a Data Centre in a Residential Area

Below: The towering data centre above Charlton's Derrick and Atlas Gardens, SE7 7TB



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

You can contact us at: campaign@derrickandatlasgardens.org.

