

## Source 1: Newspaper article about the proposal

### Datacentre Planned for Stowmarket

Automated Computer Systems (ACS) is planning to build a state of the art data centre on the edge of the Suffolk town of Stowmarket.

The centre, which will be 210,000 metre squared, will be built on farmland adjoining the Gateway 14 development. It is partly in a response to the increase in computing needs due to the growth of Artificial Intelligence.

An ACS spokesperson said that the development will bring jobs to the area and will help support the growth of Stowmarket as a high-tech development area.

The town, which has a population of 23,000, is 44 miles (70 kilometres) from Cambridge, about an hours drive. Cambridge is one of the most important high-tech development centres in the United Kingdom.

The town council is generally supportive of the plan and hopes that the development will act as an attraction for other high-tech companies looking to develop bases in the area.

A spokesperson said "Stowmarket is the perfect place to develop a data centre. Land is cheaper than at Cambridge and the A14 means that it's easy to get anywhere in the country". The area already has excellent broadband speeds which is important for data centres.

The planned data centre will employ about 120 people long term, but more jobs will be created in construction. Stowmarket is growing rapidly and has a workforce suitable for this type of development.

Some local people are against the development however. They are worried about the growth of the town, water supply problems and the loss of farmland.