

The Parish Centre, 50 Gerald's Way, Chalford, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL6 8FJ

14 December 2020

Local Plan Review
The Planning Strategy Team
Stroud District Council
Ebley Mill
Westward Road
Stroud
GL5 4UB

Dear Sirs

HOUSING OPTIONS CONSULTATION PAPER

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your consultation paper. Rather than comment on the document as a whole we have restricted our comments to areas that have particular implications for Chalford Parish. This primarily relates to question 1.

If additional housing land is required over and above that already identified, we would support either options A (Intensity) & C (Additional Growth Point). We are strongly against Options B&D seeking more development in existing towns, villages and other settlements.

Whilst we can't speak for other parishes, although we believe the same arguments may apply, we think Options B&D would increase development pressure on settlements in Chalford over and above those that already exist. Opportunities for additional housing in Chalford are very limited other than minor infilling and redevelopment. Any pockets of open land that do remain should be retained to maintain the separation of the existing villages which is key to the urban form and local character and for reasons of maintaining biodiversity and wildlife. There are also issues of sustainability with poor road access and public transport and very limited local services, facilities and employment. We have raised before the classification of Chalford as a category 3A settlement and will continue to press for Chalford Village to be split into two separate areas reflecting topography.

In terms of option E (hybrid strategy) our feeling is that a hybrid is not really a strategy as such.

We have no comments to make on questions 7-9 as we do not know the sites under discussion.

