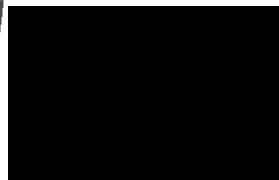
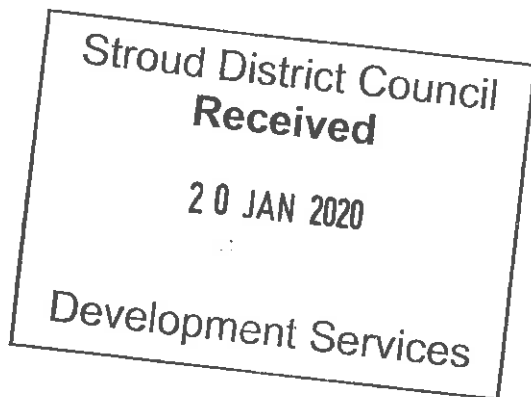


L028



17th January 2020

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

Dear Sir

re: local Plan Review

With regard to the above, I wish to pose the following questions/comments:

1. When planning permission was sought for the 188 houses currently being constructed In Berkeley, you refused permission because, according to the local plan, they were not needed. What has changed?
2. We have not seen any demographic research or calculations that show any housing being needed. So how was the figure of c5000 obtained?
3. There has been some infill in Berkeley on the old hospital site, many more adjacent to the Cam and Dursley Railway Station where the car park is so overloaded that cars are parking 'out' of spaces and all along the approach road and there are also what looks like a large development being built at Eastington. We do not need any more houses!!
4. Building houses in this area which is nowhere near any available employment raises travelling costs, increases marginal social costs and increases imissions which are environmentally damaging.
5. The local Primary schools are full and there is no local Senior school available. Where will all these extra children be educated?
6. The road network and infrastructure are inadequate for such numbers and would not cope; leading to congestion on the roads and the probability of higher accident rates.
7. Where are the local services such as gas, electricity and water coming from?
8. Parking around Berkeley and Sharpness is severely restricted, and more cars can only cause unnecessary traffic jams.

- 9. The fields around Berkeley are already flooding. A conurbation this size will cover a large area of land, making it impermeable, thus causing more flooding.
- 10. Many houses have been built in the Thornbury area and South Gloucestershire have called a halt to any further building pending an enquiry into what is actually needed.
- 11. Where will all the new people work and how will they get there? A small railway service only travelling north is a joke!
- 12. The local bank, hospital, police station and senior school have all closed and the library is run as a charity by volunteers; and there is no community centre either.
- 13. The Vale Hospital is inadequate and is now only used for clinics and respite.
- 14. Will the local cemetery cope in years to come and the Medical Centre will also have to recruit a lot more staff?

To sum up, this project will remove many acres of greenfield land which will have a detrimental effect on the local wildlife and global warming. It will increase the threat of flooding and cause gridlock caused by the extra traffic involved. As with all other developments in the area, the new people will shop on their way home from work and there will be no associated benefits to local enterprises.

The decision by the government to provide a million new homes is a political manoeuvre in order to gain votes and is not based on any factual evidence that shows this number of houses is required. In fact, most large towns and cities have large numbers of empty properties which could be brought into service much more cheaply.

I believe that these houses are not even needed and will only serve politicians and developers.

Yours faithfully

