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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 January 2021 16:02  
**To:** \_WEB\_Local Plan  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Stroud District Local Plan Review: Additional housing options consultation - South Gloucestershire Council Response  
**Attachments:** South Glos Officer response to Stroud LP consultation  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged  
**Categories:** Consultation response

Dear Stroud Local Plan Team,

Thank you for you for the opportunity to comment on the Stroud District Local Plan - Additional Housing Options consultation 2020. And thank you for your patience and agreement to an extended period in which to provide comments.

Apologise for not setting these in your online questionnaire, given we have passed the initial closing date we wanted to be sure you are aware we have submitted them.

Hopefully Stroud colleagues will also be able to join our Local Plan 2020 Duty to Co-operate meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

South Gloucestershire council provides the following officer comments focused on cross boundary considerations.

We confirm that these are in addition to comments we have provided to previous stages of the replacement Stroud District Local Plan, including our response to the November 19 consultation dated 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 (attached for information) which are not repeated here. We welcome the opportunity to explore these in more detail through the preparation of a statement of Common Ground, covering the emerging Stroud and South Gloucestershire Local Plans as required by the NPPF (Paragraph 27).

In our previous response, our comments were primarily focussed on the key issue of the transport implications of the growth strategy set out in the plan and follow on from previous comments raised at earlier stages in the Plan. The additional housing options increase our concerns about the transport impacts. We would be grateful for your confirmation on whether these additional housing numbers are still required given the change in Government policy / calculation methods since the consultation was released.

We also would ask if a further discussion with the HE may be appropriate to review both capacity and safety matters and how we can best work together to find a solution that mitigates these matters derived from all our development sites.

Finally, as context to our comments, as you may be aware the [Western Gateway Sub-national Transport Body](#) has recently convened a series of transport corridor study groups with a mandate to produce a series of strategic corridor plans within the region. These corridors plans will both the identify and phase transport scheme priorities up to 2050. Once completed the multi-modal corridor plan will form part of a Long-Term Strategic Transport Plan which is used to inform future investment decisions post 2025. We would ask, if not already, that you to engage with the Western Gateway [WesternGatewaySTB@westofengland-ca.gov.uk](mailto:WesternGatewaySTB@westofengland-ca.gov.uk) to ensure that the Local Plan is considered as part of the process. For information The Stroud local Plan area falls within Midlands to South West corridor.

Taking account of the above, we have the following comments with regards to the four spatial options for additional housing provided by SDC:

**Option A – Intensify**

This option involves the Intensification of previously identified locations and therefore previous consultation comments from SGC transport apply although obviously the impacts would require greater mitigation with increased numbers.

**Option B – Towns and Villages & Option D – Wider dispersal**

This option creates the potential for increased use of M5 J14, albeit in potentially smaller numbers and we would welcome an opportunity to work with you to clarify the scale of this and how it compared to previous options/ current adopted Plan. Therefore, comments regarding M5 J14 from previous consultation response are increasingly important.

**Option C – Additional Growth – (notably 2,250 dwellings at Whitminster (M5 J13) and 1,500 dwellings at Hardwicke (M5 J12))**

Development adjacent to motorway junctions is likely to encourage car trips (including southbound to the West of England Local Authority areas) and therefore reduce the likelihood of future residents travelling sustainably. The high-level developer material supplied for Whitminster indicates a 30-minute bus service serving Stroud and Gloucester, which is not ambitious for a development on this scale. No public transport services serving the Greater Bristol area have been put forward. Consideration therefore should be given to the likely levels of commuting towards the Greater Bristol area and how this can be served by public transport.

**Ongoing Engagement and Duty to Cooperate**

South Gloucestershire council officers look forward to working with Stroud District Council, through our ongoing Local Plan officer meetings, the ‘Sustainable Transport Strategy & Local Transport Group and through the preparation of Statements of Common ground, to address cross boundary issues ahead of the next stage of your Local Plan and in the run up to your reg 22 submission.

Many thanks



Principal Planning Officer – Strategic Planning



**Strategic Planning Policy & Specialist Advice Team**

Department for Environment and Community Services | PO Box 1954 | Bristol | BS37 0DD

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**From:** [Local.Plan@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:Local.Plan@stroud.gov.uk) [<mailto:Local.Plan@stroud.gov.uk>]

**Sent:** 21 October 2020 19:58

**Subject:** Stroud District Local Plan Review: Additional housing options consultation [EXTERNAL]

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Dear Sir/Madam,

## **Stroud District Local Plan Review: Additional housing options consultation**

The Stroud District Local Plan was adopted in November 2015 and sets out a planning strategy for distributing development within the District and policies for protecting and conserving the natural and built environment. The current Plan covers the period to 2031. It is important that the Local Plan is kept up-to-date and the current Local Plan commits the Council to undertake an early review.

The District Council started the process of reviewing the current Local Plan in 2017 with an Issues and Options consultation to cover the period to 2040. This was followed by a consultation on an Emerging Strategy in 2018 and the Draft Local Plan stage in late 2019. Since January 2020, the Council has been analysing the responses we received to the Draft Local Plan public consultation, developing further evidence to inform the Plan and considering the contents of the final Draft Plan.

In August 2020, the Government published a consultation document which proposed changes to the way the Government calculates the minimum housing requirement for each local authority area in the country. This revised standard method has proposed increasing the requirement for Stroud District from the level set out in the 2019 Draft Local Plan of 638 homes per annum, to 786 homes per annum. If this new revised method is confirmed, a revised Draft Local Plan may have to identify further land within the Stroud District for housing.

The Council is therefore launching a focused eight-week public consultation from **21 October 2020 to 16 December 2020** on additional housing options and sites, which could be brought into the emerging Local Plan, if required.

The purpose of this extra consultation is to understand: -

- What is the best strategy for identifying where to accommodate additional housing, if necessary?
- Whether and where a reserve housing supply should be identified, in the event that we need it in the future
- Are there issues or constraints associated with some specific sites, which our assessments suggest may have future potential, depending upon which strategy option we go for?
- Are there any other sites that may have future potential?

Full details can be found in a consultation paper '**Stroud District Local Plan Review. Draft Plan – Additional housing options**' that can be viewed at [www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview)

Due to the risks associated with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, this consultation will be carried out primarily online. Please visit [www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview) where you will be able to find the following:

- Consultation paper '*Stroud District Local Plan Review. Draft Plan – Additional housing options*'
- An online questionnaire (for making your response)
- Background documents
- Audio visual presentation

You can also find information on our social media platforms – Facebook and Twitter #stroud2040

We have a limited number of printed copies available to anyone who may be genuinely unable to access this consultation online.

If you know someone who does not have access to the internet but who would like to comment, you may be able to help them complete an online questionnaire. Alternatively, use our Local Plan hotline 01453 754143 (this is a dedicated hotline for contact details / document requests) or email [local.plan@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:local.plan@stroud.gov.uk) to provide us with contact details (address) so we can send them a hard copy of this document.

Whilst we encourage responses to the questions raised in the consultation paper, please do not repeat comments that you may have made previously on other policies or sites which formed part of the **Draft Local Plan**, but which do not form part of this focused consultation. These previous comments will be taken into

consideration and a report of consultation will accompany the **final Draft Local Plan** when it is considered in 2021.

We would be very grateful if you are able to submit your views to us via the **online questionnaire**, particularly given the logistics associated with current workplace restrictions. You can attach / upload documents via the questionnaire, if this helps you to provide your response online.

Alternatively, you can email your response to [local.plan@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:local.plan@stroud.gov.uk) or by post to **Local Plan Review, The Planning Strategy Team, Stroud District Council, Ebley Mill, Westward Road, Stroud, GL5 4UB.** Please respond by **16 December 2020.**

If you are no longer the appropriate contact for this e-mail, we would be most grateful if you could forward this to the relevant person in your organisation.

**Planning Strategy Team  
Stroud District Council**



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