

To [REDACTED]

I have to write a letter to you, on behalf of my wife and I in regards to the planned 2400 house in the Berkeley area. I have lived in the local area for 60 years and my wife's family have lived in the local areas, Berkeley, Wanswell and Purton for hundreds of years. The idea of this beautiful part of Gloucestershire being ruined by mass housing deeply saddens me. The feeling of family and friendship is massive throughout the Berkeley community, you only have to look at the events that bring people all together in the area, walk down to the shops and everyone saying hello to each other. Also, I wasn't aware of this development until my niece told me as she had seen a notice on facebook. I am not on facebook and feel I should have been made aware of this through some other medium. Why were no letters or flyers handed out

Regarding the survey online, what a minefield!! Is it made to be that confusing and hard to fill in to stop so many people filling it in?? It stopped/confused me.

In regards to the plans I have concerns with the following:

**1-Ensuring the new housing development is located in the right place, supported by the right services and infrastructure to create sustainable development-** I have to question what services you speak of? Buses are all being cut, we have lost our hospital, dentist and secondary school and both Primary schools are full. Already the bypass is busy with the lorries thundering up and down for the docks, the roads have only just been filled from the horrific potholes.

**2- Conserving and enhancing Stroud districts countryside and biodiversity, including maximising the potential for a green infrastructure across the district.-** How does building 2400 houses in a single area on green fields do that? Potential for green infrastructure across the district- how will we be green when a minimum of 2400 cars are driving out of the area to work in surrounding areas ie. Bristol, Gloucester, Cheltenham

**3- Maximising the potential of brownfield and underused sites to contribute to housing supply-** The vast majority of the planned development is green fields, destroying a beautiful landscape.

**4-Developing strategies to avoid, reduce and mitigate the indirect impacts of development on the natural environment- HOW?!** How will this development reduce impacts on the environment, its massive!!

**5- Tackling the acute lack of affordable housing in the district** –I agree that we need some housing, but judging by the new building project at Canonbury rise, I am not hopeful that the new houses are truly affordable. I understand that 'affordable' actually means you only own 80% of the build, the rest is rent, and usually only a 5% deposit. However, the market price of these houses is still inflated. On rightmove today a 3 bedroom semi "affordable" at Canonbury is priced at £269,995. Yet a 3 bed semi house on Lynch road, closer to town's amenities and with a larger m2 floor plan is priced at £225,000. That's a huge difference.

I hope you take the time to read this letter and reconsider the plans

Sincerely

