From:

Sent: 22 January 2020 17:46
To: _WEB Local Plan

Subject: FW: objection to Planning application for approx. 5000 houses in Berkeley/ Sharpness

area

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Subject: objection to Planning application for approx. 5000 houses in Berkeley/ Sharpness area

Dear Sir

I object to the development because:

- 1. The population of Berkeley is just over 2,000 and Sharpness approx. 1,500. An extra 5,000 houses which will amount to at least an extra 13,000 which will totally overwhelm the area.
- 2. When built Berkeley, Sharpness, Wanswell, Newtown, Brookend, and hamlets will all be conjoined and make one sprawling connubation.
- 3. Secondary education where will the older children to to school? I understand only a primary school is planned for the first phase. Statistically the new development will expect at least 750 children of secondary school age. The school in Wotton will soon be outside our catchment area and the Dursley school is full. Thereafter the nearest school is in Stroud which in rush hour can take an hour to get to. I have no idea of its capacity, but up to two hours travelling time per day is unacceptable.
- 4. Travel I understand that using the Berkeley branch line for commuters etc. is being considered. The line can only be connected to gloucester in the north. My understanding is that the majority of buyers are expected to be commuting to Bristol in the south. Therefore that will bring cars to the fore! The road to the Berkeley area (B4066) is a single track in each direction with a speed limit of 40mph which is regularly flouted now. There are a number of houses along the road and no pavement. Also the large HGV vehicles (over 38 tonnes) for Sharpness Docks use this road. I am not a traffic expert but even I can see that approx. 9,000 extra cars on the road would not work.
- 5. I understand at least two of the large land owners have already decided not to sell their land due to the sheer amount of infrastructure which would be required for this development to be successful.
- 6. Taking all of the above into account, and bearing in mind that lowering emissions is now even more urgent than at first thought, there is absolutely no way that this development all in one area will do anything but increase everyone's carbon footprint considerably. It would make much more sense for the houses to be dispersed around the District allowing for ease of access to public transport, both buses and rail and easy access to the M5.

Regards

