



## Consultation response form PART B:

If you have several different comments to make, you may wish to use a separate PART B sheet for each one (although you do not have to). If you use multiple PART B sheets, please make sure you fill in your name on each of them (you only have to fill out PART A once, as long as it is clearly attached to your PART B sheets when you submit the forms to us).

Your name

Your organisation or company

Your client's name/organisation  
(if applicable)

The consultation is seeking views about whether the big issues identified within this paper are the right things to focus on and what options exist for tackling them. Are there other issues, options or opportunities that have been missed? **Please note: there is a separate form for you to fill out if your comment relates specifically to a site submission / proposed alternative site (download a copy of the sites form at [www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview](http://www.stroud.gov.uk/localplanreview)).**

**We ask a series of questions (highlighted in pink boxes) throughout the consultation paper. Each of the questions is numbered. Please can you reference the question number(s) and/or the topic here:**

Question number: 1a

Please use this box to set out your comments:

*(Attach additional sheets of paper or expand this box if you need to)*

Priorities: Improving vitality and viability of town centres within changing environment.... Do not wish to see centres full of charity shops. Continue to Emphasise on food/arts, local product, art and crafts and supporting small local businesses. Merrywalks is not visually attractive and Stroud feels very downmarket mid-week. With the food market on Saturdays, the area becomes vibrant. More should be done to make the town centre more interesting. There is a lack of Marks & Spencer/large department store - would something like that draw more people in, so they do not travel to Gloucester/Cheltenham?

An additional thought. Stroud appears to have excellent further education for special needs - at Ruskin Mill - and it is noticeable there are caring schools (The Roses). Cirencester is well known for its agricultural college. I am personally unaware of what Stroud college offers. Could Stroud become a hub for world-class education in something relevant to the area - i.e. eco-environment/bees/wildlife/art/pottery/textiles/literature/yoga/folk customs - at degree level. Ideally a college in its own right - that students come to from other areas. Or perhaps a University college linked with London.

Also very important to improve public transport in area. Currently this is very poor. Bus services do not link with train services. It is impossible to easily commute to Bristol on public transport without traveling by car to Cam. Living in Minchinhampton the services have been cut- and it is not possible to access Cirencester/Nailsworth for shopping. There is no "late bus" - so it is difficult planning a day out on public services.

Maximise the use of brownfield sites. Continue to develop the mills/brewery sites.  
Emphasise on continuing to conserve Stroud District's countryside, protecting AONB - very important.

Question 2.1©

Believe it is important that growth is around the M5. The road system in the existing settlements, particularly in



the areas where access is on narrow winding steep hills, is not geared to high volume traffic. i.e. roads through Minchinhampton/Rodborough Common roads, Painswick, Slad, Nailsworth and Horsley. These settlements cannot expand without serious damage to their character/environment.

#### Question 3.1

Agree with Option 4. Continue to develop around M5, and Stonehouse where there are good links, and the environment/AONB will not be seriously jeopardised.

#### MINCHINHAMPTON -

Reading the information relating to Minchinhampton, I was very concerned to see that one of the proposed sites for development is: MIN B East of Tobacconist Road (for housing and/or community uses only) This is a highly controversial site- a planning application for housing/doctor's surgery recently attracted a very high number of objections. It was shown by this large number of objections, and the public meetings, that residents of Minchinhampton believe that the town centre cannot cope with large development in that area where access is dependent on using Tetbury Road. The streets through Minchinhampton are too narrow, and the terraced housing on West End will be severely affected by a higher volume of traffic. With cows and horses roaming freely through the centre more large-scale development near the allotments should be avoided. The only possible way of utilising this site would be to provide access directly from Cirencester Road, with no access via the top end of Tetbury Street/Tobacconist Road.

Ideally, from an environmental/AONB point of view, I believe housing development in the Minchinhampton/Amberley/Rodborough area should be kept to a minimum. The commons should be protected for the enjoyment of all our future generations. Traffic should be kept to strict speedlimits and the area should not be used as a commuting race-track. With lack of decent public transport, any large-scale new housing brings large-scale traffic to the area!