

Please see below my comments in regard to the technical documents for Stroud Local Plan



EB98 Transport

There seems to be very little data for Cam in this report. Promised road improvements have not been delivered for existing sites in Cam such as Box Road junction with A4135 (originally to have been a new mini roundabout). Improvements to top of Cam Pitch roundabout, and Cam Tesco roundabout which has been highlighted as overcapacity, have not materialised so far. Littlecombe relief road including improvements along Everlands and traffic calming in Hopton Road are still in waiting.

The schools in Cam are oversubscribed and lots of the children are brought in by car, as they live too far out to be able to walk to primary school. Public transport in the area is very poor indeed and there seems to be no regular buses to and from Cam & Dursley Station any longer.

Cam & Dursley Station is used as a selling point for other new developments in Wisloe, Sharpness and Berkeley, the station is currently small with a lack of enough parking. So how will it cope with in the future with use from all these new developments, where will they park?

Over the past 3 months the traffic using the high street in Cam to get to and from the A38, is so busy and now takes twice as long to travel the distance than it did 6 months ago, with queues of idling vehicles waiting to access roundabouts and junctions, which is not good for the health of pedestrians walking by.

EB109 Transport Funding, Delivery Plan

As far as I can see there seems to be little plans for improvements of infrastructure and no mention of timings of any works to be carried out in the near future. Who will decide what will actually be done and who will pay for it? Cam has a very poor record of getting what has been promised.

EB10 Infrastructure Development Plan

3.2.1 (PS24) & 3.3.1 (PS25) Transport & Highways

EB10 report states there will be a pinch-point at the A38/A4135 with these two allocations, I have travelled this road for the last 36 years up to Haresfield and there is definitely a pinch-point at rush hour am and pm for the whole journey from door to door and that is before any allocation for PS24 & P25.

3.3.2 Flood Risk Management and Drainage

I have lived in Rowley for the past 36 years and since Littlecombe Estate was started to be built there have been increasingly higher river levels, with gardens and houses being flooded both at Littlecombe properties and further down the river Cam. The current road drains cannot cope with the current run off from the rain storms that seem to be coming more frequent with the warming climate. In the past 3 months Flood prevention measures have been put outside properties at the bottom end of the Rowley Road by the Railway pub and Station Road, to stop this flood water entering the properties!

The existing sewerage system struggles to cope with existing properties and will not be able to cope with extra properties unless there is a lot of money spent on it to update the system (who would pay for this?)

3.3.4 Health & Social Care

There seems to be no real commitment for additional doctors' surgery. Both PS24 & PS25 state extensions to the existing Cam & Uley Surgery (Orchard Medical Centre), not quite sure where these extensions would be built, there is an existing small carpark and apart from that the current surgery is surrounded by houses!

The surgery has had to absorb the residents that have moved to the Box Road houses and the Littlecombe houses, it is very hard to get a face-to-face appointment with a doctor, you can be waiting up to at least 4 weeks for an appointment. Why is a completely new doctors' surgery not being planned? The local dentists in Cam have a two-year waiting list, and Dursley surgeries are not takin on private patients let alone NHS. The Health & Social Care system is dire in the area, they cannot cope with the existing houses let alone new allocations.

3.3.5 Open Space, Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity

The area known as PS25 already has an amazing Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity, no development could build any better than we already have. *(Please see EB111 below taken from page 28)*

As a resident of Rowley for the past 36 years who walks and experiences the rich biodiversity of wildlife both in the fields and within the dark corridor of the river. SFRA highlighted the abundance of wildlife and how it sensitive to ANY development. Please Please read the details sited in Cam's Neighborhood Plan and read for yourselves the Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity of this area.

EB111 Stroud Local plan Viability Assessment

Biodiversity

2.58 "National policy has moved on in this area. The Environment Act received Royal Assent in November 2021 and mandates that new developments must deliver an overall increase in biodiversity. The requirement is that developers ensure habitats for wildlife are enhanced and left in a measurably better state than they were pre-development. They must assess the type of habitat and its condition before submitting plans, and then demonstrate how they are improving biodiversity – such as through the creation of green corridors, planting more trees, or forming local nature spaces."

EB112 SALA Accessibility Scoring Note & EB112A 2020

Cam Mills is listed as closest large employer, employs 40-60 workers, there tends not to be much movement in workforce, jobs are rarely advertised. There are a few businesses on Draycott Business Park and Littlecombe Business Park, but these are mostly small employers employing very small workforces. Employers are not attracted to invest in an area unless it has decent infrastructure ie schools, dentists, doctors. Cam and Dursley are just becoming a larger dormitory suburban sprawl, where existing and new residents have to work further afield and use a car to commute, due to the lack of reliable public transport that can get them to their destination without a long commute on public transport.