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19th January 2020

Stroud District Council
Received
21 JAN 2020
Development Services

Local Plan Review
Planning Strategy Team
Stroud District Council
Ebley Mill
Stroud
Glos
GL5 4UB

Dear Sir

Re: Berkeley Cluster & PS36 New Settlement at Sharpness

I write to object to the above proposed development.

I am horrified at the huge scale of the scheme in general. The road to Berkeley and Sharpness is already hugely busy combined with the route to the old power station now providing the SGS Berkeley Green UTC, the traffic from which is hugely heavy at peak morning and evening times, causing the main route into Berkeley being virtually at a standstill. It is currently virtually impossible to park to use the shops now at peak times. More houses means more traffic and more chaos, the approaching A38 is already very heavy with traffic and small country roads to approach Berkeley and nearby Sharpness.

The nearby motorway access at Falfield Junction 14 is in constant use and already heavily used, the traffic lights which were constructed several years ago at a huge cost to the local tax payers, have to be turned off in the rush hour which is what they were designed for because the volume of traffic. There has been house building at Charfield, Thornbury and Cam just recently and Falfield is also due to commence. Most houses have a minimum of two vehicles which makes this already busy junction not requiring any further new traffic.

Junction 13 of the M5 at Stonehouse is also already very bad with locals going to the industrial sites there and going to Colleges and schools nearby. I understand a new stadium is also going to be built, bringing further traffic along with the new houses that are under construction on entering the road to Stonehouse.

There are no hourly regular bus services currently, no train facility in Berkeley, all locals are currently using the bad roads which are hugely in need of repair, how on earth is all the extra traffic going to combine with the already hugely busy road chaos? With what appears to be no extra links to access other areas for work. The brochures show getting around on segways, impractical in a rural location, with no nearby shop, doctors, school facilities, etc.

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There is no evidence of any improved facilities, no new doctors surgery, the patients at Berkeley already have to register to use Wotton or go to the Dursley Hospital, as the Berkeley Hospital was closed and also used for housing. Should this proposed development be allowed, surely this hospital should not have been closed in the first place.

Where are all the jobs coming from to sustain these 5,000 houses? Renishaw's the local employer is already asking for redundancies.

There is no mention of a new secondary school until the end of the second phase, where are all the children going to go? The Katharine Lady Berkeley School, Rednock and Castle at Thornbury are all already at bursting point, so too the local primary schools from the local building that is already on going in Wislow, Cam and the every growing Charfield. How is this ever going to work?

I moved to Berkeley with my wife as it was a small local town. The current Persimmon development is reported to have lots of problems being built on an old landfill site, the current fields surrounding them are all flooded. Do you want more chaos and more flooding for these 5,000 proposed new homes?

I choose to live in the countryside with the green fields and the natural wildlife, enjoying walks and watching all the birds that come every year to the nearby Slimbridge Wildfowl and Wetland Trust this huge development is bound to have a dramatic effect on the local wildlife. There are other areas other than the greenfields that are available for this size of housing with better facilities.

I do accept that there has to be some small dispersal development, in all nearby local villages, but on this huge scale I have a definite objection to this proposed development.

Yours faithfully

