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Sent: [REDACTED]
To: _WEB_Local Plan; [REDACTED]
Subject: Stroud DC Local Plan

Categories: Consultation response

Stroud District Council Local Plan

We attended the early December Presentation in Sharpness Village Hall where we spoke to a [REDACTED] from Planning Dept. We told him that we are members of Berkeley Triangle Action Group (Btag), our group is comprised of people who live along the "Triangle" roads of the B4066 and Alkington Lane. Historically these two roads have carried about half each of the traffic to A38 from Berkeley, Sharpness and the area around. Latterly the B4066 carries more than half the traffic as Alkington Lane has been allowed to fall into disrepair and is very neglected, with potholes and failing edges/verges. Howard Tenens, a large logistics company in Sharpness, will not use Alkington Lane until it has been improved. As there are only 7 dwellings in Alkington lane but over 70 along B4066 this makes the B4066, (now an urban road), very dangerous for the almost 80 families living along it and exiting and entering their driveways. **Alkington Lane currently needs improving as a matter of urgency, so that it can, once again, carry its share of the increasing amounts of traffic using these roads.** We are against the Local Plan as it will obviously make our roads more impossible to live and drive along. The road infrastructure has needed a major makeover for many, many years. 30+ years ago plans to finish the bypass were cancelled and since then things have just got worse and worse on these roads. Your plans would make things impossible for we, who live on these roads and everyone who uses them.

In our immediate area we have many Tourist attractions, Cattle Country being the most popular Tourist venue in all of Gloucester, (see the front of this weeks Gazette 17/1/19 where there are proposals to spend well over £1-2 million to extend and improve Cattle Country), ironically this is situated right on the B4066, an urban road with many other businesses such as a Country store, a wedding venue, a Gymn, etc, etc There is also The Castle, Jenner Museum, the Deer Park, the town itself and Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust is just nearby. Many people are excited that the town is such a brilliant Tourist magnet but people will be deterred from visiting if they are delayed by lines of traffic and great HGV's at the junctions of all roads that lead to and around Berkeley, this is already happening and your plans will worsen it 100 fold.

It is understood that Gloucestershire/Stroud are obliged to build houses due to Central Government directives however the scale of this proposal is disproportionate to the area. The numbers of housing builds being quoted would have a very negative impact on the very happy existing community and split everything up, we love our countryside and many new people moved her because of the countryside, the town, the castle etc and it will be ruined if the green fields are covered in new build of one type or another. The ecology in this area is fiercely guarded by many who live here, our woodland and countryside are full of wonderful birds and wildlife. We have a very rare type of newt called "The Great Crested Newt" and our protection of this rare species have given many developers pause as they had to work around them in their plans. In this country there is much talk of ecology but it seems the Developers and big corporates almost always win when it is between ecology or making money. Berkeley and it's surrounds are places we enjoy to live in, please don't destroy our environment and our countryside with disproportionate development.

Below are the things Berkeley has lost in the last few years, we simply do not have the infrastructure to support this scale of development:

In Berkeley we have, relatively recently, lost a secondary modern school, a police station, the Library was saved only by being taken over by the community, the only remaining Bank has been closed, the Hospital was closed, **(the land given to the people of Berkeley by the Berkeley family for the Hospital has now been sold to Developers)**. We do not have any permanent Doctors at the Health Centre they are all Locums. The two roads carrying traffic from Berkeley, Sharpness and the area around are totally inadequate now and are getting worse daily. A new HGV container shed was built recently and that doubled the HGV traffic on these two roads, there is also planning permission for another huge HGV container shed to be built.

This scale of development would mean nothing Berkeley has would be sufficient; the shops, the parking, the Doctors surgery, the primary school, we have lost our secondary school and Dursley school is much too small for these numbers. The roads are inadequate as is the public transport. We need small scale development spread across the district, "dispersal" type development, this would be proportionate development and right for this area. We are on the edge of the Cotswolds and are a tourist town, please treat our town and its residents with the respect it deserves.

