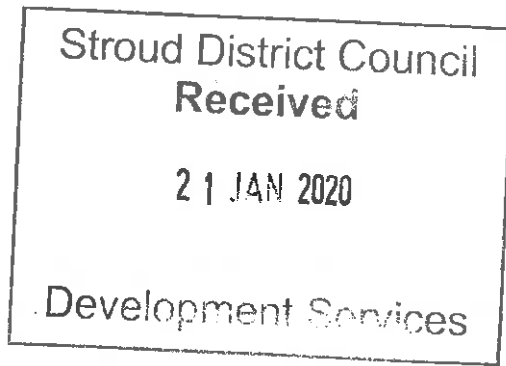


L022

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



Dear Sirs,

PS36 Berkeley Cluster

This proposal would have a significant impact on the local Berkeley area as I understand the final plan would mean building a town five times the size of Berkeley itself. This seems unnecessary. Some development for perhaps 300 homes would be much more proportionate for local needs and can be supported with relatively modest improvements to the existing infrastructure.

Employment

I understand that the Council has said in the past that few new jobs will be created in this area. So it does not seem that 5,000 homes are needed. If most growth in employment will be between Cheltenham and Gloucester then building most homes there would seem more sensible.

Environment

Although the area is just outside the current flood risk zone, climate change is already causing more local flooding on the roads as well as fields. Once the fields have been built on they can no longer absorb rain water.

Transport

5,000 new houses would mean perhaps 10,000 more cars on the local roads and I understand there seems to be no proposal to extend the bypass from Mobley to the A38.

The Plan states that no priority will be given to car transport, but instead cycling and walking will be supported. Many people, like myself, are no longer of an age when cycling or walking is realistic and a car is the only means of transport and independence available in an area with very poor bus services.

Employment for everyone will not be within walking or cycling distance. Even if people could get to Cam and Dursley station, the station capacity and car park are full already. People will need to drive not just for work, but to shop, to the doctor to the hospital and to school.

New roads would need to be built causing more pollution and emissions and contributing to climate change.

5,000 houses seem to be far more than we need in the local area and changes to the infrastructure needed to support such an increase do not seem to be adequately planned for or achievable. Please reduce the target number of homes to be more proportionate with the local needs.

Yours sincerely,

