



Additional Comments from Wotton-under-Edge Town Council - 18th Feb 2020

The draft plan requires the Wotton Cluster to accept 50 new houses in Kingswood and it is known that at least three other developers are pursuing sites for several hundred more houses. These proposals take no account of available school capacity (Annex A) or the new housing developments, totalling 75 houses (Annex B) that have received recent planning permission in Wotton, 53 of which have yet to start. It is known that Kingswood primary school is already at capacity and has a waiting list. Wotton’s two primary schools together have 66 places available currently (based on available GCC statistics). Using the “New Development Guide”, 100 houses creates a demand for 41 primary school place. Therefore, based on these figures, the yet to be occupied developments in Wotton will absorb 31 of these places, meaning that only 35 places would be available for new developments elsewhere in the Wotton Cluster – insufficient to meet the demand for the 50 planned new houses in Kingswood, plus those sites being pursued by other developers. Any new housing proposals must take into account amenities in the area and it is clear that insufficient school capacity exists in the Wotton Cluster for any significant development. Furthermore attention must be paid to actual year classes within primary schools, where some year group numbers are exceeded.

It is well known that Wotton has traffic flow and parking problems which are particularly bad during school drop-off and pick up times. Making families from Kingswood drive their children to and from school in Wotton will exacerbate these problems and must be avoided either by increasing school capacity in Kingswood or reducing the housing numbers planned there.

ANNEX A

AVAILABLE PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES IN WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE AND KINGSWOOD

School	Capacity	Actual	Date	Vacancies
Kingswood	119 (17x7)	119	October 2019	0
British School	210 (30x7)	165	October 2019	45
Blue Coat	315 (45x7)	294	October 2019	21
Total	644	595		66

Primary School Available places in Year groups

School	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
Blue Coat	15	8	4	-1	3	-7	-1	21
Kingswood	0	2	0	-3	-1	1	1	0
British	13	12	0	9	1	0	10	45
Total	28	22	4	5	3	-6	10	66

ANNEX B

RECENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS IN WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE

Development	Number of Houses	Date of Permission	Status
Fountain Crescent	22	22 Dec 17	Houses available from Jan 2020
Symn Lane	12	1 Aug 19	Not Started
Gloucester Street	8	4 Sep 19	Not Started
Berkeley Close	3	27 Nov 19	Not Started
Dryleaze Court	22	Awaited	Not Started
Mount Pleasant	5	Awaited	Not Started
Pitman Place	3	Awaited	Not Started
Total	75		53 Not Started