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**To:** \_WEB\_Local Plan  
**Subject:** Housing development in Berkeley Cluster

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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I wish to make the following comments on your plans for 5000 dwellings in Sharpness area, which I generally disagree with.

Upto 5000 houses in Sharpness and Newtown are far too many in a single location. I appreciate large growth points of this type make your job far easier to meet government set targets, but the sheer scale of your plans will destroy the heart of communities and community spirit around which they are based.

2. I feel government house building targets should be more equally distributed in smaller scale amongst existing towns and villages. My view is that the infrastructure promised by both councils and developers such as schools, health centres, employment, transport etc are only ever promises at best and rarely ever delivered as promised at the time of planning and approval.

3. There is far too little local employment to support even a fraction of the people who would live in this development, thereby adding to traffic congestion, pollution and noise problems within the area.

4. 5000 houses alone will create an enormous amount of additional traffic. The daily traffic problems the Sharpness plan alone will create locally on access to the A38 and at local mway junctions (M5 J13/J14) will be unmanageable, they are already failing. In addition the M5 J18 Almondsbury M4/5 Junction will be horrendous adding to the over congestion that already exists. Also consider the additional traffic created by Wisloe and Thornbury plans. How can traffic congestion that will inevitably arise be consistent with efforts to protect the environment?

5. The proposed railway station at Sharpness may never be realised, and I feel is simply raised as a possibility only. Also I do not see how it could be used to get people to Bristol as the rail infrastructure to achieve that does not exist (ie Gloucester only)

6. I fully accept houses have to be built for many reasons and also accept we all have a duty to accept and coexist with new developments. However developments should be planned so that those of us who live in rural retreats such as these are able to share the beauty of our surroundings with new builds, I vehemently do not accept that this beauty should be destroyed or sacrificed in order for you to meet your government set targets. It must be re thought.

Lastly, many local people including myself are extremely disappointed that attempts to inform us have had to come from locally motivated people with similar concerns to the above. I feel Council driven information provision regarding this development has been extremely poor, scarce and insufficient.

Regards

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