

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 13:05
To: _WEB_Local Plan
Subject: FW: Stroud District Local Plan - CDC officer comments
Attachments: Delivery Policy ES2 (CDC officer comments).docx

Categories: Consultation response

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Su trict Local Plan - CDC officer comments

Dea [REDACTED]

Please see below officers' informal comments to the draft Stroud District Local Plan.

Chapter 1 – Key Issues

Supportive of the 40 key issues many of which affect Cotswold District (e.g. climate change, protecting and enhancing special landscape areas, rural economy, health and wellbeing, etc.)

Chapter 2 – Making Places (the Development Strategy)

Support vision and CDC is likely to work with neighbouring partners to help it achieve carbon neutrality over the next two decades. Support recognition of special environment, social and economic qualities. Support strategic objectives. Development locations appear to be sustainable propositions and opportunities to benefit from a new heat network in the south Gloucester area has to the potential to support carbon zero ambitions. Support smaller scale development to meet local needs within AONB.

SDC is demonstrating a positive approach to delivering housing needs within the Severn Vale area and across the wider Gloucestershire housing market. Support approach to housing land supply and welcome additional headroom (just over 2,000 dwellings) over and above the housing requirement. This will help to mitigate fluctuations in the housing market. Clearly developer intentions and capacity to build at suggested build rates will be a key matter at submission and examination (table 6).

Town Centres – Welcome findings of the “Future of Town Centre report” many of the issues are relevant to Cotswold towns and larger villages. Officers welcome opportunities to share learning and work collaboratively to support our respective town centres.

Welcome the ambitious DCP1 policy (Delivering Carbon Neutral by 2030). Cotswold has also declared a climate emergency and given the cross cutting nature of the issue officers welcome the opportunity collaborate on the issue, where possible and practical.

Chapter 4 – Homes and Communities

General support for the core policies and appear consistent with NPPF/G requirements. Policy DHC2 – It is not clear how SDC has alighted on a maximum of “9” dwellings. CDC local plan policy DS3 employs the phrase “small scale”, this is proving useful and allows the DM process to consider the merits of the application. DHC4 –reads more like Reasoned Justification than policy. Welcome the planning for healthy communities policies – they provide useful examples for CDC when it updates its local plan.

NB: Publica has recently been awarded government funding to investigate how to deliver carbon neutral affordable homes, which may prove helpful to SDC.

Chapter 6 - Our environment and surroundings

Policy ES1 is central to meeting core objectives relating to the climate emergency. However, a key challenge is the outcome of the government's Future Homes Standard (FHS) consultation. CDC, through its response to the FHS consultation, has expressed its objection to the proposal that would restrict LPAs from adopting more onerous standards. In many respects the SDC local plan is a testbed for innovative policies and approaches in Gloucestershire and CDC will no doubt benefit from SDC's endeavours. Critical to the success of any policy is articulating the context and providing sound and robust evidence.

Policy ES2. It is not clear how the decision maker would use certain aspects of the policy - see attached document.

Finally, Officers wish to thank SDC for supporting and in many cases leading on joint evidence and commissions to the benefit of Gloucestershire LPAs.

Best Wishes,

[Redacted signature]

Cotswold District

[Redacted name]

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