

I do not support the proposal to build a new settlement of 1500 houses at Wisloe for the following reasons.

It has been highlighted by the developers of the land , which are Ernest Cooke Trust and Gloucestershire County Council, that there could be a potential issue with the water quality .

Can SDC please explain how this will be resolved ?

This proposed settlement will have a large and detrimental impact and ruin the views from Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the settlement will be seen from both the Cotswold AONB and The Royal Forest of Dean AONB and will also impact on the views that local residents have of those two areas. This completely goes against SDC's Core Strategy that states it "aims to protect and enhance the natural and built environment of the district". A housing estate as large as the one proposed will have a unpleasant visual effect.

Other sites have been rejected over AONB view issues.

How does SDC justify ignoring the AONB issue here when others have been rejected ?

SDC's Ecological Appraisal recognise that there have been sightings of protected species and concluded that further in depth surveys need to be conducted. Such sightings include long eared bats,dormice and the european nightjar. There have also been sightings recorded by the British Trust for Ornithology of curlew and lapwing. These are considered 'red data' listed birds and require large open spaces to roost and feed.

It is important that the recommended in depth survey is conducted prior to this land being included in the Local Plan.

Why are SDC considering building on land which is an essential wildlife area ?

SDC's own recommendations state that any future housing development should be prioritised at existing larger communities

Why is SDC selecting the land at Cambridge/Wisloe Rd for development when it certainly isn't a larger community?

SDC are proposing that 80% of its perceived housing needs are being centred around Berkeley and Cam/Cambridge and Sharpness. Most employment is centred in the north of its District. This is very intrusive to the proposed areas and in the interest of dispersal, which was a favoured option, some of this housing development should be closer to areas of infrastructure and employment such as Hardwicke.

Why was Hardwicke discounted when it is of a higher tier for amenities and employment than the proposed one at Wisloe?