

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 January 2020 14:13
To: WEB Local Plan
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Berkeley Cluster Proposed Sites

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Planning Strategy Team,

We are writing this email in response to the latest planning review concerning the Berkeley Cluster, proposed sites.

PS36 New Settlement at Sharpness: "Garden Village" Sharpness to Berkeley and around Wanswell, Newtown and Brookend. Approximately 5,000 houses (Phase 1: 2,400, Phase 2 2,600)

PS35 Land at Focus School, Wanswell. Approximately 70 houses.

PS34 Sharpness Docks: Approximately 300 houses on land north of the docks.

PS33 North West of Berkeley: Approximately 120 houses on land off Station Road next to the roundabout and bypass.

This response applies to all the proposed developments in the Berkeley area.

We live on Station Road in Abwell, where the road is in very poor condition. The general speed of traffic already makes it dangerous to get on and off our driveway, and the noise of each Wanswell school minibus (of which there are at least 20) as they thunder over the potholes is noisy and disturbing to the peacefulness of our home in the morning and afternoon. Particularly regarding to the **PS35 Wanswell School development**, an addition of 70 houses is likely to lead to an extra 100 or so cars coming up and down the road numerous times each day. People will only move here if they have cars as there are no facilities within walking distance.

Station Road desperately needs to be resurfaced (along with the lane leading to Abwell Farm and cottage, which has become a hazardous dirt track for vehicles despite it belonging to the council!) Proper safe speed limits and speed control systems would need to be in place (not just speed limit signs) for any increase in housing in the Wanswell area.

We moved to this area to live in the quiet rural countryside not on the edge of a housing estate or living on a fast busy road. This further increase in housing will destroy the beauty of the area. The current building works by Persimmons Homes is a perfect example. Apparently, from good sources, they are not even selling well which indicates to us that the rural locality of the housing compared to purchaser's places of work is not appealing. How can this make sense, to build further houses?

Existing families have very little choice in schools in this area, so by increasing the housing how is that going to help?

There are so many other hurdles against building further housing in an area designed for the rural community, where we have chosen to live and enjoy; no infrastructure, no schools, possible increase in flooding, destroying beautiful landscape and wildlife habitat, no employment in the area, no railways and very little practical bus links. The list goes on. The area will become gridlocked by traffic, not forgetting the motorway junction at Tortworth which has already been recognised by Highways as not being fit for purpose.

We are very against this suggestion of further housing, in such a beautiful rural area. After moving from the City into the countryside, I don't want it to be destroyed beyond recognition, it will force us to reconsider our dream and move elsewhere.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]