

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 December 2020 11:10  
**To:** \_WEB\_Local Plan  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Land north of Charfield Road, Kingswood - Additional Information regarding School Capacity

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

Dear Sir / Madam,

Hope you're well.

We have recently submitted representations on behalf of Redrow Homes (SW) Ltd in relation to land north of Charfield Road, Kingswood in respond to the Additional Housing Options Consultation.

Whilst we are now past the consultation deadline, we have just received some very useful information from GCC forwarded on by our education specialist, regarding the ability for Kingswood Primary School to accommodate additional pupils through expansion of the current school, which is set out below.

This confirms that a temporary solution to expand the Primary School is not practical nor robust and further strengthens our arguments this can only be resolved in the long-term through the allocation of land for circa 300 residential dwellings and a primary school in Kingswood, which as our representations set out, Redrow Homes is happy to accommodate this within their masterplan as shown.

We appreciate that the consultation deadline has now passed but we would be grateful if this note could be appended to our representations or simply acknowledged by officers that this will inform part of their decision-making process.

**Kind Regards,**

[REDACTED]  
**Senior Planner**

The logo for Grassroots Planning Ltd, featuring the word "Grassroots" in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font, with a small green sprout icon above the 'o' in "roots".

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*\*Please note – due to the current COVID-19 health crisis we are unlikely to be working in the office and will instead be working from home. Please call us on our respective mobile numbers if you wish to discuss your project(s) with us.*

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 December 2020 06:14 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Kingswood Primary School

Hi [REDACTED]

I have just heard back from my colleague in our education team and her response is as follows:

Best wishes  
[REDACTED]

In response to the query 'Can you tell me if these are GCC words and, if so, what are the practical measures that are proposed to arrive at a temporary solution?' regarding the extracted statement from the SDC Local Plan:

'As set out earlier in this chapter, there are existing capacity issues at Kingswood Primary School. A temporary solution is proposed to address an existing lack of capacity; however, an alternative solution would need to be found in the longer term.'

We cannot surmise on the source of the statement in the Stroud Local Plan, it is likely to be from a previous Place Planning Manager when responding to SDC possibly early in 2019. The 'temporary solution' is highly likely referring to the school's own plans to put in a small structure for a multi-use break out space to address pressures they were already experiencing from local development.

The situation in Kingswood is complicated. The existing Victorian school building is on a small restricted site, with dwellings, a public highway and a water course on it's boundaries and in close proximity to the English Heritage Kingswood Abbey Gatehouse site. It is not possible to expand this school on this site to accommodate more children. The next two closest Gloucestershire schools in Wotton, may currently have a little spare capacity but only in some year groups; and they would probably not fit into the safe walking routes criteria.

The obvious solution, in a perfect world, would be to re-provide the existing school on a new site in Kingswood, **which we do not have**. There is no easy way to accommodate pupils from small to middle sized developments (50-100 dwellings) and they would not generate adequate funding to address site/build requirements.

The Gloucestershire Place Planning Strategy Update is due for publication in March 2021.

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