

Response to South Gloucester Core Strategy Main Issues and Matters
Rep No.: 3554817
Matter 9/Filton Airfield/21 June 2012

Cllrs Mark Weston, Chris Windows, Cllr Jenny Smith
Cllr Brenda Massey
(On behalf of the Henbury and Southmead Neighbourhood Partnership)

MATTER 9 – FILTON AIRFIELD

1. Is the balance of uses proposed for this area appropriate to the needs of the North Fringe and Bristol area?

Whilst recognising the need for additional housing in the locality, an extra 5,000 plus homes built so close to the borders of Bristol and South Gloucestershire will put very considerable strain on the local infrastructure, as noted in 3 below. Adequate provision of education facilities, local shops, health care, community facilities, etc., must be in place from the start to avoid the many problems that plagued the building of Bradley Stoke, when inadequate consideration was given to how the new communities could be best served.

2. To what extent has the Council had regard to the impact of development at the Airfield on the surrounding communities including those in the City Council's area?

There is a huge amount of concern regarding the impact of the proposed development on the Airfield on the neighbouring Bristol wards of Southmead, Henbury, Westbury-on-Trym, and Horfield. Currently, the traffic problems in the area are severe at peak times of day, and the impact of the proposed additional housing in the area will exacerbate this. Given that the new build in South Gloucestershire could take advantage of planning for wider roads in the area, but that the traffic crossing into Bristol will have to enter roads that have no possibility of expansion, it is likely that there will be continuous traffic jams right across the area.

Ensuring the infrastructure is carefully and thoughtfully planned to avoid this as much as possible is absolutely essential. It is requested that alternative transport systems including a Park and Ride, plus re-opening the train station at Henbury, are included in any planning proposals, and every effort is made to provide low-cost frequent and regular public transport in the area.