

Copy to Inspector



Core Strategy Inspector  
c/o Kath Thorne, Programme Officer  
South Gloucestershire Council  
PO Box 2081  
South Gloucestershire BS35 9BP

19 Jul 2013

15 July 2013

Dear Sir

Core Strategy

You will be aware from my previous correspondence (my letter of 30 April) that I am very disappointed that to meet a perceived shortfall in the first five years of the Core Strategy South Gloucestershire Council proposed that land to the east of Morton Way Thornbury should be allocated for residential development and that after reviewing alternatives you agreed with this proposal. Not only is this opening up large tracts of open countryside to piecemeal development but will, it appears, contribute only an insignificant number of houses in this critical first period to 2015/16.

I understand a report has now been prepared by consultants on the five year supply which indicates no shortage exists such as to justify the Morton Way development. I am fully aware that the more experts involved the greater the number of differing conclusions and I am sure you will study this report and give your comments. It would be most gratifying if you agreed its conclusions and the Morton Way proposals can be removed from the Core Strategy. However I fear it is too late for the Appeal on this site by Bloor Homes to be affected by any such reversal? It could however prevent further intrusion into open countryside.

South Gloucestershire undoubtedly has a need for many houses but it is a pity so many will have to be crammed into soul-less new neighbourhoods (such as Cribbs Causeway), meaning the repeat of Bradley Stoke and Emmersons Green? Many villages could accommodate additional residents and facilities – involving non intrusive adjustments to the Green Belt - but despite its 2010 commitment South Gloucestershire are now leaving this to the individual communities over the next decade and the pressure from residents who might be affected by such development will cause parish councillors to do little. I believed the review of the Core Strategy by the Planning Inspectorate would, among other aims, minimise 'nimbyism'. However it seems over the next fifteen years there will be little change to the patterns that were set some fifty years ago despite the huge changes since then.

Yours faithfully

A D England