

From:

To:

Subject:

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Consultation on the Proposed Main Modifications to the West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039

30 January 2025 14:57:57

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

This Local Plan is fundamentally flawed, both in terms of the impacts of the development on the local environment and on the local communities and transport infrastructure. It is evident that this development will exacerbate noise, light, and environmental pollution in the surrounding areas, including the local Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The proposed increase from 1,500 to 2,500 houses constitutes an overdevelopment of the area. There are more appropriate sites within the WBC boundaries that could accommodate development more suitably. The planning of this development appears to be a cursory attempt at fulfilling planning requirements.

The lack of provision for sustainable transport links is inadequate. The assertion that there will be no additional provision for wider road improvements, except those on the site, is untenable. This development will result in a significant increase in through traffic through Bucklebury, as residents seek alternative routes to the M4/A4. This development does not meet the criteria for sustainable development.

WBC has consistently failed to engage with local groups, including Bucklebury residents, as part of the local plan process, providing insufficient time for responses to documents. It is apparent that WBC is manipulating the process for its own purposes.

The plan and its amendments are inconsistent with national policy. The increase in housing to 2,500 under policy SP17 directly conflicts with national policy, particularly concerning landscape character and the impact on the AONB.

regards

Paul Weston