

Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018

To: Planning Policy <Planning.Policy@n-somerset.gov.uk>

Subject: Local Plan 2036: Issues and Options Stage Consultation

Dear NSC,

I already have a login for 'NSC Do It Online' yet this will not let me comment on consultation? I do not want to register another NSC login so please find below brief comments on this consultation document.

Introduction

This is all seems led by JSP/JTS (aka Bristol/Bath expansion) Will anyone in NSC question the actual need for the housing build numbers based on old data dictated by central government? Isn't this all really just about supporting the house building industry as a major employer and LPA's gaining New Homes Bonus to top up their Council Tax revenue for social care? Shouldn't the real objective be population control? Council Housing should never be sold, perhaps shopping centres recently acquired by NSC should be converted to residential council housing as retail sector regresses due to increased online shopping?

Q1WSM Services

Planning permission should depend on ACTUAL availability of essential support service provision and infrastructure like healthcare, currently GP surgeries stretched, WSM A&E closed overnight, schools full, yet massive increase in population and traffic through new housing! This is crazy. NSC receive extra council tax and New Homes Bonus but NHS/Police nothing????

Q8/9Settlement Boundaries Hierachy

Why do we need to have a status, either communities are sustainable for growth or not. But by suppressing growth in larger 'service' villages, like cities the result is rural development at the cost of agricultural land. If services are not present, developers should fund and build key services first before housing this may control speculative applications on green field sites.

Q5 Green Belt

By stopping Bristol/Bath expansion into green belt, development is 'leap frogging' green belt and destroying rural communities by creating 'garden'

villages, producing more longer commuting to cities and increasing carbon footprint! Where is UK Food Security if our agricultural farming fields and buildings are housing estates, solar farms or golf courses?

Transport

Re-establish smaller train stations, make public bus transport free (or massively subsidised) and enforce large freight by rail to solve increased traffic congestion, parking issues and environmental pollution. Pavements and foot/cycle paths are overgrown and littered, enforce legal duties to maintain them for more pleasant and safer sustainable travel. Reduce and enforce speed limits to also make use of highways safer for cyclists.

Q8NDPs

Are NDPs just a government propaganda strategy to reduce cost of LPA planning appeals by convincing communities they need and have to build housing? Surely the LPA Local Plan should be good enough and not overridden by NPPF because of landbanking by developers? Again controlled population = less housing, less transport, less pollution, more food security

Q7Tourism

If we build on our rural landscape why would anyone from cities want to visit?

New Policy Q42 etc. Environment

All housing should have mandatory renewable energy. Woodlands development should not lead to felling of trees. Why is growth considered good? Housing development, Airport and road expansion = increased pollution not to mention stress = poorer health!! We are becoming Locusts!