

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PlanningPolicy](#)
Subject: WBC LPR Regulation 19 Objection
Date: 02 March 2023 12:23:01

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I wish to comment on the above and the proposed large housing development in Thatcham towards Upper Bucklebury.

Traffic increase: Living in [REDACTED] I am particularly concerned that this proposed scheme is well over the top in size and will inevitably result in a large increase in traffic through Upper Bucklebury, Chapel Row and Bradfield Southend. Harts Hill Road is a twisty rural road as are others for example around Upper Bucklebury/Chapel Row/Bradfield etc. These roads are already busy and the road network and junctions along the way are not well suited to what will inevitably be a big increase in traffic. Heaven forbid if the development is allowed to proceed, as before long it is likely to lead to the urbanisation of what is currently a special rural area of "outstanding natural beauty" and it's not unreasonable to ponder that in due course the thought of new or enlarged road junctions, pavements or even heaven forbid street lights. We have in the area something of natural beauty and character and to place such a large development on our doorstep will inevitably change what is essentially a pleasant rural area, and an AOB as well, into the creeping spread of the concrete jungle.

Healthcare: The surgery at Chapel Row would seem to be already incredibly busy and fully stretched and would suggest that healthcare provisions generally in the area are already incapable of taking on what would be a large additional burden of potential patients. In this regard I am informed that there has been no meaningful consideration of the impact that such a large development would have on the existing healthcare framework. This seems very poor planning for the future and a prescription for major problems in healthcare in the area which is already at full stretch.

The news in the last few days regarding Bicester council scrapping plans for a super surgery only goes to emphasise the point. Despite the planned considerable increase in housing in their area it has apparently not been possible to negotiate NHS funding and will therefore put still further pressure on the local hospitals in that area. I suspect the RBH and other hospitals in this our area are already fully stretched, and without appropriate provision this Thatcham development will be a healthcare car crash waiting to happen.

Environment: Whilst it is appreciated that an increase in the housing stock is needed throughout the country, it is surely a mistake to have a such an expansion so close to so many rural communities and an AOB. The AOB will not be an AOB if there is a persistent eating away at the edges and will

inevitably have a deleterious effect on the local environment and wildlife. We must surely do what we can to protect what is special about this area and wildlife in general which is already under pressure.

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