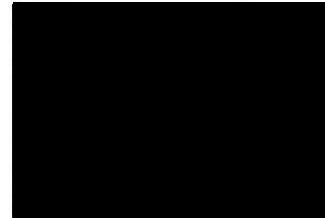


Black Country Core Strategy
Planning Services
Dudley MBC
The Council House
Priory road
Dudley
DY1 1Hf



10 August 2017

Dear Sirs

Black Country Core Strategy Consultation

I refer to the current consultation process. Our comments are as follows:

The document only became available in our local library about 2 weeks ago and given that it is holiday time we have not been able to attend the local events – this is unsatisfactory.

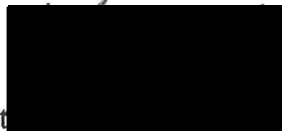
This is presented as a consultation but is worded as Hobsons Choice. You are telling us that there is no alternative to building new homes on the green belt. This is totally unacceptable to us. Some of our reasons for objecting to your proposals to increase the number of new homes, both inside the current boundaries and on the green belt are as follows:

- 1 Police stations have been closed and police withdrawn from our area whilst crime rates, particularly of violent crime, have increased.
- 2 Hospitals are under enormous pressure and cannot cope with more patients.
- 3 The transport system is poor, particularly in our area with no metro or train service. The roads, such as the A491 are hopelessly congested at peak times and very difficult to improve due to such problems as the canal network.
- 4 The local schools struggle to meet existing demand.
- 5 Noise and air pollution are already excessive.

In addition the impact of Brexit is unknown but is likely to reduce immigration and reduce employment opportunities. Also the impact of technology on shopping and jobs are likely to further reduce demands for housing

We suggest that the strategy should be the complete opposite of your proposals by concentrating on improving the quality of life of existing residents before trying to draw in additional ones.

Yours faithfully



Adrian and Kathleen Barrett