

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning Policy](#)
Subject: Draft Local Plan - Velmore Farm Development
Date: 26 March 2024 21:23:11

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Planning Policy / Test Valley

I am a resident in Valley Park along with my partner, and I work on School Lane Industrial Estate. We are very concerned about the proposed housing development on Velmore Farm in Chandlers Ford / Valley Park as part of the Draft Local Plan 2040.

We understand that the locally elected councilors were not involved in the discussions or process of forming this plan. I find this very disconcerting as these are the very people elected to represent the residents. It therefore questions the accountability of this plan.

There is no indication of access to the site except for the roundabout at the end of School Lane. This junction already experiences significant traffic issues, in conjunction with the traffic lights at Castle Lane and the Asda roundabout. An addition of around 2000 additional cars from this development will make a bad situation even worse. Stationary and queuing traffic will increase local air pollution and reduce air quality. Whenever there is an issue on the M3 / M27 this route also suffers very serious delays and gridlock. The whole traffic management needs to be fully re-assessed.

The local health services / schools cannot cope with the current situation, let alone this additional burden, unless specific additional facilities are introduced. There is no indication of this being incorporated in the plan.

The roundabout intended for access currently suffers from flooding / poor drainage along with School Lane. The level of development will exacerbate this issue as the rain water run off will be much higher as a result of development. When Knightwood was developed balancing ponds were used, but there is no indication of anything in this plan.

Placing so many new homes in one development will always be a significant impact on the local area, and before the use of farmland / green space is undertaken, all potential brown field sites should be considered. The development of Velmore Farm will reduce the Local Gap which may be a breach of this requirement to be maintained.

There are two sets of overhead electricity pylons crossing the centre of the proposed site at Velmore Farm. Surely it is not good policy to construct new developments adjacent or under these pylons. Is there any consideration to move these underground?

Looking at the Local Plan 2040, there are 5 large (over 300 houses) developments in Test Valley BC which account for less than half the total supposedly reportedly required by the government. Therefore the plan appears incomplete and we are very concerned that the size and scale of the Velmore Farm development will increase as time goes on to cover part of the shortfall. It also appears that as with previous Local Plans the location of major developments is concentrated in certain areas and not equally divided throughout the TVBC area, which creates the many identified issues mentioned above in these areas, and generates resentment that this whole situation is unfair on the residents in the affected neighbourhoods.

Best regards

Mr. R. Marchant / Miss C. Bailey

