

Cotswolds Conservation Board
Fosse Way
Northleach
Gloucestershire
GL54 3JH



30th November 2018

Matt Barker
Planning Policy
Tewkesbury Borough Council

By email to localplanconsultation@tewkesbury.gov.uk

Dear Mr Barker

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH PLAN 2011-2031: PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Thank you for consulting the Cotswolds Conservation Board ('the Board') on the Preferred Options consultation for the Tewkesbury Borough Plan ('the Plan').

The Board has two primary purposes, which are to:

1. Conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Cotswolds AONB;
2. Increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Cotswolds AONB.

While having regard to these purposes, the Board also has a duty to foster the social and economic well-being of local communities within the AONB.

The Board supports those aspirations and policies in the Plan which will help to achieve these purposes, such the Vision's aspiration to cherish our environmental and heritage assets and ensure that development is directed away from high quality landscapes.

However, the Board is concerned that a number of the policies have the potential to undermine these purposes and we object to such policies. In particular, we object to some of the site allocations that are proposed in Policy RES1, including the Winchcombe allocations and the allocations in Toddington and Shurdington.

The Board objects to the proposed Winchcombe allocations, which are located in the Cotswolds AONB, because Tewkesbury Borough Council has not:

- identified the need for affordable housing arising specifically from within Winchcombe and the Tewkesbury Borough section of the Cotswolds AONB or based these allocations upon this specific need;
- identified whether the allocations would constitute 'major development' in the context of paragraph 172 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Board objects to the Toddington (Site B) and Shurdington allocations (Sites A, B and D), which are located adjacent to –and in the setting of - the Cotswolds AONB, because Tewkesbury Borough Council has not adequately addressed the potential impacts of these allocations on the AONB. Toddington Site A should not be an allocation as it already has planning permission and development has already started there.

Conserving, enhancing, understanding and enjoying the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Cotswolds Conservation Board Fosse Way Northleach Gloucestershire GL54 3JH

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The Board also objects to Policy RES4 as we believe that it could potentially undermine the 'settlement hierarchy' concept and undermine the provision of affordable housing.

If you have any queries regarding the Board's response, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Mills". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

John Mills MRTTP
Planning and Landscape Officer