

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PlanningPolicy](#)
Subject: WBC LPR Regulation 19 Objection
Date: 20 February 2023 22:34:05

This is an EXTERNAL EMAIL. STOP. THINK before you CLICK links or OPEN attachments.

Mrs Mandy Sainsbury



Dear planning team,

I am writing to object to proposed plans to build 1500-2500 houses in NE Thatcham. I have lived in Thatcham for [REDACTED] years and before that in Midgham from birth. To build on the land linking Thatcham, Bucklebury and Midgham would be without doubt a terrible decision. The beautiful countryside that I have loved for [REDACTED] does not deserve to essentially be destroyed. I have the usual concerns over infrastructure. Floral Way is already used as a bypass to the A4 with no traffic calming. More houses would exasperate an already inadequate road. A lack of schools, GPS, police station, rail crossing (that is fit for purpose) is of course a concern but my biggest concern follows. In [REDACTED] I attended Kennet school and remember water flowing down Station road. Fast forward to 2007 when Thatcham was flooded. I was working in the Burwood centre and those devastating scenes will never leave me. Cars floating down the road, houses and gardens flooded. The cottage I grew up in, in Midgham was totally flooded, the sluices were opened to save Thatcham and my family home was sacrificed. My brother was living there at the time and had [REDACTED]. His family came to live with me in Thatcham for a time but it was over 6 months before they could return. The cottage still has damp problems that have never been resolved. Many friends and colleagues lived in caravans and rented while their homes were drying out. It was a devastating time. I walk a lot and I see just how desperately the water wants to flow downwards from Bucklebury towards the canal. It always has and always will. Even with the millions spent on flood alleviation in Thatcham it will never be adequate. Only a couple of weeks ago after heavy rain, the water running at the side of Dunstan park and under Station road was scary in its force. Building more houses with drives, patios and roads that will take away the natural absorption we currently have is madness. We are barely coping in Thatcham now and this is not a sensible place to build. There must be better options that will not impact our town and countryside. I hope you take on board my concerns and would be happy to attend any meetings.

Kind regards
Mandy Sainsbury.

Sent from my iPhone