

Wiltshire Council

Full Council

18 July 2023

Item 10 – Wiltshire Local Plan Review

From Richard Curr

To Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Question (P23-16)

Is Site 2 the most appropriate development area for 2525 houses in Chippenham bearing in mind the impact it will have on the existing support infrastructure?

Namely:

Medical services: Hospital – no direct access from site, Lodge Surgery will not be able to cope with the new residents and has no scope to enlarge the premises on the present site and Hathaway Surgery is too far to travel when unwell.

Transport: The existing road network will be adversely affected until the new roads are completed (at the end of the Plan period if at all). This demonstrated by the accident on the A4 (7 July 2023) when the road had to be closed from 5pm to midnight with no alternative routes other than back lanes. (see Wiltshire888.com and Police report.)

Services: Sewage, water and power supplies will need to be upgrade to meet the demands of the site.

Other mitigation costs as detailed in Policy 7.

Response:

Large-scale development at Chippenham is likely to have impacts on infrastructure. The draft Plan makes provision to ensure that these impacts will be mitigated, and that mitigation be secured as part of the development where necessary through the planning process.

Question (P23-17)

Was Site 2 chosen as it allows Wiltshire Council to sell off the Council-owned farms against other sites where infrastructure already exists (either fully or partially) and will not exacerbate the already difficult road conditions in the Town Centre?

Response:

No, all sites have been considered through the site selection process were ones that had been promoted for development through the Local Plan. Sites have been selected based on evidence, irrespective of who the individual landowners are.