



22nd December 2022

South Staffordshire District Council
Council Offices
Codsall
Wolverhampton
WV8 1PX
localplans@sstaffs.gov.uk

Dear Local Plan Team

REGULATION 19 PUBLICATION PLAN CONSULTATION

Comments from Swindon Parish Council in response to Regulation 19 Publication Plan Consultation:

Swindon Parish Council object and consider the Local Plan is unsound as it fails to consider recent developments outlined in a letter dated 5th December 2022 from the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Minister for Intergovernmental Relations. In the letter, to all MPs, he outlines changes he will be making to the planning system, by way of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which aims to address many concerns expressed by local communities associated with the current planning system. He also states: "Where authorities are well-advanced in producing a new plan, but the constraints which I have outlined mean that the amount of land to be released needs to be reassessed, I will give those places a two year period to revise their plan against the changes we propose and to get it adopted."

While it may take time for the Bill to progress and become legislation, it is entirely appropriate for the process of generating a new plan for 2018-2039 to be paused and await the outcome that could have a significant bearing on future housing provision both within South Staffordshire and Swindon Parish. To ignore the opportunity provided by Government to reassess the proposed plan will be a dereliction of duty to all residents within South Staffordshire and a failure by South Staffordshire District Council to adhere to legitimate concerns expressed by both residents and Government. There appears little to be gained from ignoring the option to pause and make use of the additional two year period to reassess land to be released.

Yours sincerely

J S Cree

Parish Clerk
Swindon Parish Council

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Swindon Community Centre
High Street
Swindon
DY3 4NR**

swindonparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Tel: 01384 400660

www.swindonparishcouncil.org