

I am writing as the Conservative candidate for Kingswinford and South Staffordshire with my comments on the The Local Plan Review – Publication Plan.

I strongly support the decision not to choose Rigdgehill Woods and Lawnswood as sites for future development. Also, the removal of sites in Wombourne (land north of Bridgnorth Road and Beggars Bush Lane) and Lower Penn (Langley Road) from previous draft plan.

There will of course still be some requirement for additional housing to meet local population needs, but clearly as much as possible this needs to be built on existing brownfield sites. That said, I do recognise that, as 80% of South Staffordshire is greenbelt, inevitably a small portion of this will have to be released.

Sites identified at Codsall and Billbrook are amongst the least harmful options available, but we need to ensure that any development minimises the impact on the local community, transport and public services. The scale and nature of development needs to be consistent with villages.

It is particularly important that further development proposed on sites by Boningale Homes would not impact the buffer between South Staffordshire villages and the Black Country.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

