RT HON SAJID JAVID MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Michael J Hetherington Local Planning Inspector

EMAIL

28th May 2015

RE: Bentley, Bromsgrove

Dear Mr Hetherington,

I would like to register my formal concerns on behalf of my constituents, in advance of your final hearings and conclusions.

I remain unconvinced that the impact of further building in Bentley would be to the advantage of my constituents and the long term stability of the area in which they live.

My particular concerns relate to the effects on air quality, environment, infrastructure and facilities available to existing and future residents. The scale of proposed development would inarguably and likely detrimentally affect local highways, school places, services and environmental quality in this area. I therefore urge you to hold the impact on the community and the Green Belt with the high regard that Government policy emphasises.

I am confident that Bromsgrove's Green Belt must not be compromised under any suggestion of obligation under the 'Duty to Cooperate'. This is a point clearly stated by the Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government. The 'Duty to Cooperate' is not a duty to agree. It is important that Bromsgrove residents are assured of their Local Authority's ability to consider evidenced housing need, but also to reject and accept this on its own terms.

It is also essential that all available land in Redditch is fully utilised before any intrusion into Bromsgrove's Green Belt land is considered. Bromsgrove should not be left defenceless against the ever increasing housing need of neighbouring authorities. Bromsgrove already faces significant challenges for the future as it seeks to accommodate its own future housing need.

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Thank you for your consideration of these summarised concerns. Having met with the majority of Bentley residents I am convinced that the allocation of this area as a development site is neither suitable nor practicable.

Yours sincerely,

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