

**Pine Lodge
140 Meeting House Lane
Balsall Common
Coventry CV7 7GE**

12 March 2019

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Planning Directorate
Council House
Manor Square
Solihull
B91 3QB



Dear Sir or Madam

SMBC Draft Local Plan – Balsall Common/Berkswell

As a longstanding resident of Balsall Common I wish to express my concerns and objection to the Draft Local Plan which envisages large scale developments in and around Balsall Common and Berkswell.

The proposed plan involves the release of a vast area of Green Belt which would be a great loss to the amenity of the area and would lead to urban sprawl by eroding the Meriden Gap between Balsall Common/Berkswell and Coventry. Any loss of greenbelt land should therefore be kept to a minimum.

The number of new houses proposed to be built on the Barratt Farm land and other parts of Balsall Common is excessive. It would have a detrimental effect on the existing houses near the new estate and would mean a huge increase in the number of vehicles on the road with resulting pollution. There just isn't the infrastructure to absorb the increase in traffic and additional pressure on existing services like the doctor's surgery, the post office, etc. It is difficult even now to find a parking space in the centre of Balsall Common and the number of parking spaces available at the station is totally inadequate so that commuters are forced to park along the surrounding roads which causes congestion and pollution for nearby residents.

The proposed new housing developments would almost double the size of the village and this combined with the construction of HS2 and the proposed bypass would change the character of the village for ever and it would no longer be a pleasant semi-rural village to live in.

I understand the need for new housing but this should be spread out more evenly across the whole of the borough and not be concentrated on the Balsall Common/Berkswell area.

It is for the above reasons that I object to the current Draft Local Plan.

Yours faithfully

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Hannelore Lloyd.

Hannelore Lloyd