

South Worcestershire Development Plan – **Objection Letter**

CFS0880 Land beside Strensham Court Wood, Twyning Road, Upper Strensham

Dear Sir / Madam,

I strongly object to the inclusion of the above Employment Land site in the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR) Preferred Options consultation document.

My reasons for this are:

- Strensham is a small category 4 village set in open countryside. It is an unsustainable location for development. There are no shops, services or facilities in the village or close by.
- The land is far from centres of population, meaning that the workforce would need to commute long distances, as there is no bus service and it is many miles to a railway station. It is not in an accessible location. Access to the business park would have to be through the middle of Strensham village. There is no access to or from the M50 or M5 motorways.
- It would irreversibly change the character of the village. Strensham at present is a small, quiet, rural village and the imposition of a business park that is larger than the village itself would change this to essentially a village characterised and dominated by a business park.
- The increased traffic associated with the business park, especially lorries, would have a significant adverse impact on highways safety in the village and surrounding roads. HGV's should no longer use the country lane from Twyning to Strensham.
- Strensham Court is a locally important Historic Park and Garden. No consideration seems to have been given to this and certainly doesn't appear to have been assessed in forming the view that the site could be put forward for allocation. The local designation is not even on the interactive map accompanying the consultation. This suggests that the Council have not acknowledged its existence nor assessed in any way the impact of this development on it.
- The land is within historic park land, laid out for Strensham Court stretching down to a lake and Harbour Wood. A well-used public footpath on a hard track passes through this area to allow walkers to take in this rural scene and enjoy the abundance of wildlife which resides in the area.
- The current small business park is a poorly performing existing employment site, due to its location and limited access to major roads.

In summary, the proposed site allocation Land beside Strensham Court Wood, Twyning Road, Upper Strensham is neither justified nor consistent with national policy. It would lead to an irreversible detrimental impact on the village itself and a locally important non-designated heritage asset.

It must not be taken forward.

Yours faithfully