



Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to comment on 'Local Plan Part 2' which would impact Weston and Aston.

Further development must not proceed while the existing infrastructure is already failing. Roads, public transport, healthcare provision, and community facilities particularly for young people are currently inadequate and cannot support additional housing.

Road access is already severely constrained. Between **07:30 and 09:00**, it is extremely difficult—often impossible—to leave the village via **Cuttlebridge**. Traffic congestion in **Aston** is severe, and parking around both schools is a persistent and worsening problem. Public transport options do not provide a viable alternative.

Recent development has also led to increased flooding. The main road through **Weston** now regularly floods after rainfall, particularly between the railway bridges and opposite the old village school—an issue that did not exist previously. This demonstrates that drainage and flood mitigation infrastructure is already insufficient.

Any future development must only be permitted **after** essential infrastructure is fully delivered and proven to function effectively. Development should not be allowed to proceed on the assumption that infrastructure will follow later.

It is also vital to protect the **rural character** of the village. Weston must not be allowed to merge with **Aston and Swarkestone**, creating a continuous suburban sprawl. Villages should remain distinct, with clear separation to preserve their identity, environment, and quality of life.

Housing need should be met through the use of **brownfield sites** wherever possible, rather than expanding into open countryside and eroding village boundaries.

In summary, development should only occur where:

- Infrastructure is already in place and adequate
- Flood risk is properly addressed
- Village separation is maintained
- Rural character is protected
- Brownfield land is prioritised
- Improved routes for cyclists and pedestrians are put in place.

Kind regards,

