

Sandra Hutchings

From:
Sent: 13 March 2014 12:04
To: DPD
Cc: Sue Kidd
Subject: Response to Local Plan consultation

Local Plan 2013-2033 - public consultation

I am contacting you with reference to the above, in particular plans to build a large new complex at M5 Junction 27 (or 28).

I feel that planning efforts should continue to concentrate on improving amenities in the existing centres of Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton. They are under significant pressure at present, and it is proving quite hard to maintain them as viable local centres, with a variety of facilities - shopping and leisure - for local communities. A large new development with access from the motorway would only increase the difficulty; while it might encourage more custom from beyond the District Council area, there would also be a diversion of local spending from existing centres, with severe effects on available local facilities in these centres, rendering them substantially less pleasant environments in which to live and work, and to bring up families. Older people would also find it harder, if there were fewer and less varied options, for shopping for example, in their local area. While there would be a link to Tiverton Parkway station (if the development at J27 were to go ahead), rather few customers would come by rail, and the net effect would no doubt be an increase in road traffic.

It is also hard to see how the proposed developments would encourage small businesses, from where the majority of growth in employment, and economic diversification, is due to arise. Again, efforts should be concentrated on encouraging small business development in the MDDC towns, and also in existing villages - such as Uffculme - and rural areas.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on local plan options.

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Sent from Windows Mail

