

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [PlanningPolicy](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed extension to the area for housing growth, South East of Blandford St Mary  
**Date:** 18 September 2015 00:27:44

---

Dear Sir,

I refer to the above potential land use and offer my comments for consideration by the planning advisors.

The scheme as I understand it to be, proposes the development of land bounded by the A350 & A354 for approximately 350 dwellings and includes an addition to the original proposals for part of this site.

The original site under consideration being for less housing units.

Having viewed the outline proposal, I note the following main points:

- There is no provision for a school to support the children who would live on this development, particularly as Blandford's current school do not have any spare capacity.
- The increase in population following on from Blandford police station no longer being a 24/7 facility offers an enhanced risk to the residents of Blandford and its environs.
- It is not clear how the current infrastructure would be enhanced to support and cater for the new influx of residents.
- There does not seem to be a recognition that there needs to be a master plan for Blandford and its outlying areas and in particular the long outstanding need for an improvement scheme to deal with the traffic issues of the A350 which may possibly be a bypass to divert traffic away from Charlton Marshall and Spetisbury. A potential route could possibly follow or be adjacent to the old railway line.
- Blandford currently has severe pressure on doctors surgeries and the potential of a further 1000 - 1200 persons could have a severe effect on a facility which is currently under pressure and have a damaging effect on the existing residents.
- The North Dorset planning policy department has not issued letters to the large housing estate - Bryanstan Hills - about this proposal, although they will be substantially affected by this proposal. I consider the exclusion of this housing area to be underhand or at the very least unfortunate.
- It would seem to me that the route of the old railway line should be listed as a heritage site (as are some of the houses in Lower Blandford St Mary) in order to preserve some of Blandford's history. Moreover the route and original footprint of the railway line should be preserved and used as a demarcation for any future development.
- It has been known that Blandford would contain housing development and be contained within the ring road, where there is considerable free land/space for development.
- The long term future of Blandford Camp (if the reduction in armed forces is to go ahead) would offer a viable option for future housing.

I do hope my views will be considered in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Ian Mackay