

**John Nicholas**

**Matter 10.1/256**

**Question 152B In order to be sound , is it necessary for the Plan to identify the number of additional affordable homes needed in different parts of the district such as for individual or groups of Principal Settlements?**

Yes, but I have found no evidence in the Local Plan that housing need in any of the 17 settlements has even been considered.

For a compact urban District such as Gloucester, Cheltenham or Swindon with good bus services across town the answer may be no, it is not necessary.

However the Cotswold District is spread over 450 square miles with more than 40 miles between some extremities. The Council has chosen to consider 17 settlements. Furthermore across the District house prices are approximately twelve times the average income, higher than the national average, so there is a greater need for affordable housing right across the District.

If the Council wish to group some Principal Settlements together for the purpose of identifying the affordable housing need then that proposal should be considered on its merits.

**Question 153B. In order for the Plan to be sound, does it need to be modified to ensure the delivery of a specified number of affordable homes within certain parts of the district, such as individual or groups of principal settlements ?**

Yes, but I have found no evidence in the Local Plan that the delivery of affordable homes in any of the 17 settlements has even been considered.

Comparing 153.2, page 6 of the CDC response M10-CDC with the 2015 FOI information from the Housing Department (shown in my submission Matter 10/256) only Down Ampney, Tetbury and Willersley meet the identified housing need. That means as of now 14 of the 17 settlements fail to meet the identified housing need.

On 153.3 page 7 if 2,350 homes were built on the proposed Chesterton Strategic Site with 30% affordable housing then 705 would be affordable. Adding 12 at Chesterton Halt and 47 at Kingshill North takes the Cirencester total up to 764, more than 200 in excess of the identified Cirencester housing need of 551.

If the Council wish to group some Principal Settlements together for the purpose of identifying the affordable housing need then that proposal should be considered on its merits.

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