

Looking at the suggested settlements for development in your proposed local plan, it is questionable whether you are applying the criteria for the hierarchy of settlements correctly. One question is why Tansley, a settlement with very limited amenities, has been chosen for more development - an allocation of 30 dwellings outside the settlement boundary would seem excessive, especially in view of the fact that larger and more sustainable settlements have no quota.

Is planning being led by local need or land availability?

It is very disappointing that you have not provided our district councillors or the public with the SHLAA of identified sites, which I believe you have based your proposals on. How can our councillors make important decisions when key information is withheld from the discussion?

The new National Planning Policy Statement encourages local authorities to choose "brown field" sites in preference to green field.

A recent survey of residents in our village has given Tansley Parish Council a mandate to oppose any development on "green field" sites. Residents are strongly opposed to any realigning of the settlement framework.

There are valid concerns that should there be any further development in our village, it will not be monitored by our local authority as there appears to be a lack of any robust form of enforcement. This has been proven in our village: 13 months after residence, important conditions have not been adhered to on a new development of houses.

The Localism bill places importance upon enforcement; the new planning document states "effective enforcement is important as a means of maintaining public confidence in the planning system".

It may be sensible to follow the advice in the new planning document and publish a local enforcement plan - setting out how you will monitor the implementation of planning permissions. In this way the community will know what parameters you intend to work within.