

**From:** Catherine Wilson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 January 2023 21:55  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** East Devon Local Plan query

**Categories:** Reg.18 consultation

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed allocation of over 1,000 new houses in Axminster. Axminster is a town which is already struggling with the lack of infrastructure, services and resources. The Drs surgery is struggling to cope, local primary schools are full, the secondary school has no 6th form facility with pupils forced to travel via train to Exeter. A costly journey which is on numerous occasions, cancelled or subjected to huge delays.

The small police station is unmanned, ambulances are required to travel from other towns, with long response times.

The cottage hospital was closed.

The roads in Axminster can not cope with the volume of traffic, with roads often gridlocked. Large vehicles struggle to negotiate the town centre making it hazardous to pedestrians and other road users.

The proposed allocated site on the Musbury Road is of particular concern to me. Houses along this stretch of road rely heavily on road traffic mirrors to gain access onto the road from their drives as visibility is so poor. Vehicles often travel outside the statutory speed limit along this stretch of road, with numerous accidents having occurred over the last few years. An increase of vehicles accessing this stretch of road will add more hazards to an already dangerous road.

A large section of the road has no footpath with pedestrians taking their life in their hands to walk into town. Access from Lear Lane onto this road is totally blind with residents relying again on a traffic mirror situated in the field opposite. Pedestrians often attempt to cross the road at this point to access a public footpath - Fairy Lane, this is difficult now without the addition of extra houses.

If houses are built on the field opposite this will add another hazard to this stretch of dangerous road. An area of the road is so narrow that two large vehicles are unable to pass at the same time. The area is also subject to poor drainage with water on occasions gathering on the carriageway having poured down Fairy lane and into the driveways / houses opposite. Building on this farmland will increase the risk of flooding to neighbouring properties. I hope that you will reconsider the disproportionate number of houses you plan to build in Axminster without improving the infrastructure and that you deem the proposed site on the Musbury Road unsuitable and dangerous.  
Your Sincerely

Catherine Wilson

Sent from my iPhone