

Maisemore Parish Council strongly supports the principle of sustainability in formulating a strategy for development in the Joint Core Area to the year 2031.

However, the Council has serious concerns regarding the allocation of 880 dwellings in what are termed 'Service Villages' many of these being devoid of those essential services which residents regularly depend upon. Residents in these villages are therefore highly dependant upon making frequent journeys by car. Apart from those Service Villages where important existing facilities (eg schools and shops) require additional populations to remain viable, new development in such villages runs contrary to the principle of sustainability. Whilst the denoted Service Villages have some facilities, many are sparsely required and used. Furthermore no consideration appears to be given in the Settlement Audit to the availability of statutory services ie electricity, gas, water, sewerage etc. and the expense of new infrastructure provision which new development would incur.

The Parish Council is aware that Local Planning Authorities are encouraged to work together, as the Joint Core Strategy demonstrates. However, parishes located west of Severn are adjacent to and closely related to parishes in the Forest of Dean District. Maisemore depends upon that District for Primary and Secondary schools, a post office and a doctor's surgery and is concerned to know whether assessments for new developments west of Severn will take account of that in adjacent Forest of Dean parishes.

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