

PLANNING REF : 241567
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Dorney Reach House
: Harcourt Road, Dorney Reach, Berkshire
: SL6 0DX
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Andy Roberts
DATE SUBMITTED : 23/07/2024

COMMENTS:

I have recently had to move from the area, but still have strong feelings for the village. My strong concern is Labour's new housing initiative aims to address the national housing shortage by increasing the number of homes built. This will mean huge pressure on local councils to revise their plans to align with national objectives. Local plans, like the one for Finchampstead, typically reflect community needs and aspirations, but they MUST also comply with any new broader governmental policies. The zero-housing objective for Finchampstead may become increasingly difficult to maintain as there will be a national directive to significantly increase housing stock. A more realistic approach could be to plan for a smaller, controlled number of houses to prevent large-scale, less controlled developments that could be mandated by higher authorities. Revising the local plan to include a modest number of houses, like the 40, might be a good strategic move. This can provide a compromise between maintaining the village character and meeting housing needs, rather than being imposed externally. In summary, while the objective of zero houses is not viable under new housing policies, a revised plan with a controlled number of houses could be a better strategy. This approach could help preserve the village character while complying with broader housing directives.