

STATEMENT NUMBER A8

As a councillor in Eastville, the planned development of Atlas Place cannot be seen as a bad thing. It is brownfield land and of course, this would make perfect sense in an ideal world.

The problems I have with the first of three applications are as follows:

We need to be absolutely clear that if this development is approved, there will be unprecedented and out of control chaos on our roads. We are already seeing an increase in traffic through Fishponds partly owing to cars looking to divert from East Bristol. Any suggestion that this site will be able to control car usage would be a misdirection. Therefore, without a clear answer to traffic management, I am against this first round of proposals.

Secondly, I am fully behind our GP's who are concerned about the impact that all the new developments in Bristol, are having on GP services. The same can be said about the impact on dentists and schools. It is inconceivable that any modern development plan should be exempt from providing evidence about the impact that this site, once completed, will have on our services.

Whilst I am not an expert on flooding, we have seen Lodge Causeway regularly flood over the past 6 months. With the impact of climate change and the removal of all shrubs and trees, I believe that the potential for ongoing flooding will increase.

Yes, we need more social housing as I cannot align social housing with the concept of affordable housing, to house Bristolians. There is no commitment from a private developer to provide Bristolians with homes. We will therefore end up with the same situation as normal, housing which is not aimed at providing Bristolians with homes. Instead, we will potentially see hundreds of new homes that we cannot afford.

Until the infrastructure issues are addressed, I will not be able to support this scheme. Sadly, I fear that my objections will not be a material consideration or be enough of a concern to force developers to put our residents and crucial services, i.e. GP's and Dentists first.

Cllr Lorraine Francis

Lorraine Francis

Councillor for Eastville