

Annex 19

Responses to Testing Ideas Consultation – September 2010

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What is your interest in the development?

- "General interest. I think it is an exciting venture."
- "To not see it built, as I love the green fields that's why I moved here from South London. Have enough of urban development and know it means greater problems for Bicester."
- "Secretary of Bicester Local History Society so interested in development of town, and the heritage and future developments that support this."
- "Where the cars going."
- "A general interest in the town's development."
- "Seeing what it's about."
- "1) I live in Bicester. 2) I believe the people of Bicester ought to be trusted to make decisions about the future of their town in a responsible, fully democratic citizens' assembly, open to all residents!"
- "Concern over transport and infrastructure."
- "I live nearby in Kings Meadow."
- "I am a retired engineer and have lived in Bicester (Langford Village) for 20 years. I am concerned the Eco Development will damage the existing Town (by adding to traffic congestion which is already bad)."
- "I live on the Bure Park Estate in Bicester, so this development will have a direct bearing on my life."
- "My house backs on to Howes Lane and I am particularly concerned over the increase in traffic that road will have to bear. Is there no access from Howes Lane to the site? Also, It is not at all clear from the current plans how close to Howes Lane the new properties will be."
- "We are against this development on the grounds that: It is being built on good productive farm land which is needed to help feed this country not destroy the atmosphere of Bicester as a market town. We need small developments in and around Bicester which can be built to high standards and be affordable for the young people who need housing. The infrastructure would then be able to cope now and not ten years later. Any grants should be used for supporting the local economy at this crucial economic time."
- "I live very close to the proposed Eco Town."

Do you think P3Eco is developing the right approach to the layout of the Exemplar?

Yes	0
Nearly	3
Not sure	7
Not quite	1
Not at all	5
Blank	1

Answer	Comment	Response
Nearly	Know this is difficult at present but would like more information into how community aspect of development would benefit the whole community.	There is a community development and governance strategy supporting the Exemplar application.
Not at all	Too little provided for residents' cars.	There are 1.77 spaces per home. There is a Transport Strategy which addresses the requirement to move to non car means, and consideration of car share and car club provision.
Blank	Why not make Bicester a 'Transition Town'?	This would be for consideration under Eco Bicester
Not quite	Infrastructure should be developed first before any houses are built.	Infrastructure will be provided to complement the scale of development as erected on site.
Not sure	Difficult to tell as drawing not entirely clear.	A further round of consultation showing more detailed plans took place in October 2010
Not sure	The Exemplar is only a small part of the overall scheme (only 400 out of 5000 dwellings)	The Exemplar is a stand alone development, but is intended to be the first settlement in the wider NW Bicester development.
Not at all	Forget Woods Folly forever?	There is a concentration on biodiversity in the proposals and a commitment to the maintenance of as many trees and hedgerows as possible as a core principle.
Not at all	The idea of self sufficiency in this age is nonsensical. The last self sufficiency village was in the Middle Ages.	The Exemplar does not intend to be fully self sufficient but will prioritise local supplies, food and employment.
Not at all	There just doesn't seem to be anything drastically different in the proposals.	The intention is for the Exemplar to be a nice place to live that fits into the local area.

Do you like the approach to the community 'heart'?

Yes	10
No	4
Blank	2

Answer	Comment	Response
No	It will break the community heart.	The Exemplar is intended to rely on and provide the town centre rather than rival it.
Yes	Need to build a vibrant community for whole town.	Agreed. P3Eco is supporting Eco Bicester projects and has taken a whole town approach to the proposed development.
No	You cannot create a "Community" by Planning means, Communities create their own Identity. The idea of living without Private Transport is not achievable. Not everyone can ride around on Bicycles	The Community Governance strategy focus on community development in the first instance. The performance of the Green Travel Plans and full Transport Strategy will be monitored.
No	It seems a strange statement to make that residents will be given the chance to understand farming when the farmland is actually being built on.	The intention is to provide community access to food production.

Is there anything missing from the proposed layout?

Yes	7
No	2
Blank	8

Answer	Comment	Response
Yes	Natural fields and beauty - leave as is.	The Exemplar has been designed to retain as many of the natural features as possible, including field patterns, hedgerows and watercourses and there is a statement on biodiversity supporting the Exemplar application. Over 40% of the site will be public open space, plus there will be private gardens.
Yes	Allotments	These will be provided on the Exemplar.
Yes	Roads and parking for residents.	There are roads, but priority is given to non-car modes of transport. There are x car parking spaces per home.
Yes	Access that doesn't require using the current already overloaded infrastructure.	Transport modeling on the impact of the Exemplar shows little additional pressure. Non car use will be prioritised. Reduction of car use by 50% is a core principle of the eco development and will be monitored.
Yes	Detailed Network of Roads, Cycle Ways/Footpaths. No Allowance made for increase in road traffic. (I do not think people will cycle, walk or use public transport – they certainly do not in Langford Village)	Transport modeling on the impact of the Exemplar shows little additional pressure. Non car use will be prioritised. Reduction of car use by 50% is a core principle of the eco development and will be monitored.
Yes	I cannot see how this development will benefit the rest of Bicester, it is a satellite beyond the ring road and 'humanising' (lowering the speed limit?) the ring road will not change this fact. Also, you mention that Bicester has a very strategic location in relation to important towns and cities in the Midlands and South East – this will obviously appeal to people looking to buy houses here and commute, yet there appears to be no planning going into how this increase in traffic will affect the roads. Most people will drive, not catch the train and cycling to these destinations is totally impractical."	<p>P3Eco is providing a demonstration house and community centre in the town. Eco Bicester, led by the District Council, is considering onward benefits.</p> <p>There will be a new crossing over the ring road in the Exemplar phase.</p> <p>Transport modeling on the impact of the Exemplar shows little additional pressure. Non car use will be prioritised. Reduction of car use by 50% is a core principle of the eco development and will be monitored.</p>
Yes	Where are all the Eco facilities that should be in place?	A further round of consultation showing more detailed plans took place Oct 2010
Yes	Facilities for realistic Transport, even Electric Vehicles is a start.	There is a Transport Strategy supporting the Exemplar application.
Yes	The are no specific "eco" ideas, just woolly words.	There is a Sustainability Statement supporting the Exemplar application.
Yes	More information and certainty about infrastructure provision to support the development and ensure its viability as an 'eco' development and its long term sustainability as such.	There is a Sustainability Statement supporting the Exemplar application.

What do you think are the most important elements for the Exemplar for P3Eco to consider? Tell us up to three priorities – e.g. sustainability, transport, biodiversity.

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Energy	Environment	Transport
Sustainable employment	Community facilities	Adequate infrastructure
Roads		
Transport		
Sustainability		
Transport		
Transport	Jobs	Housing costs
Realistic planning of how people live and work	Sustainability	Making it truly part of the town
Transport	Integration to Bicester as a whole	Open spaces
Transport	Infrastructure	Affordable housing for real people
Transport	Employment	Educational and community facilities

Please leave any other comments below

- I consider Bicester is a mess which needs dealing with first. Lack of Jobs – 60% of population commute elsewhere to work.
- No adequate Hospital available
- Town Centre being redeveloped
- Bicester Village weekend traffic.
- Junction 9 on M40 needs sorting.
- With the present economic situation the idea of an Eco Town is really Pie in the Sky. Come back in 20 years.
- Are you seriously expecting me to answer this? Surely if the government has identified this as an eco-development, someone in the relevant government department must already have specified these.