

**From:** Alan Clarke [REDACTED] >  
**Subject:** Local plan inquiry and examination - for the attention of the inspector - Pembury  
**Date:** 19 January 2025 at 22:49:18 GMT  
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Dear Charlotte,

On the publication of the Tunbridge Wells Local Plan I submitted a number of comments and observations to the inquiry, not all of which were favourable to land use and allocations. I commented, as I am sure did other Parishes, that the proposals did not seem to address the concerns of the local communities.

The 1960's/1970's saw major developments in the village but with very limited infrastructure proposals and without implementation. The sewerage infrastructure has not been updated, there continues to be flooding for example on Hastings Road, the doctors surgery has very limited capacity to cope, and the by-pass construction of the 1970's/80's has already been overwhelmed by traffic. The A 264 access to Tunbridge Wells is at times gridlocked. There are plans for massive development at Paddock Wood, some of which has materialised. There are no related suggestions for traffic management or improvements to cope with the increased number of households. The impact on this parish will be huge.

My concern is that the allocated sites on the proposed Local Plan for Pembury are already the subject of planning applications relying on the existing Local plan. The assumption would appear to be that these cannot be challenged, and that the sites have already been approved for development in isolation from the findings of the Local Plan inquiry and its eventual adoption. I am aware of one such application which may be speculative with a view of the grant of permission to enhance the value of the proposed site for re-sale.

I was part of the group established by the Parish Council to prepare the Local Neighbourhood Plan for Pembury, since adopted. From by conversations during the consultation with the executives of both Southern Water and South East Water, both statutory authorities, I was advised that there is limited objection that can be made by the consultees and that regardless of any such objections, the applications are considered in isolation to any infrastructure needs!!

I hope that these late comments will assist the Inspector in his considerations,

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Clarke  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

PS I attach a draft of an article I have submitted for inclusion in the forthcoming 2nd volume of Bygone Pembury to be published by the Pembury Society which gives a flavour of my past involvement with the village. The Inspector may find Vol 1 of interest and also Pembury - our Village - Our Future