

**Luke Hall MP**  
THORNBURY AND YATE CONSTITUENCY



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

LONDON SW1A 0AA

**Luke Hall MP Statement on the future of Buckover**

Thank you for your ongoing efforts and for all your support in the ongoing campaign to prevent a Buckover 'Garden Village' being built on the edge of Thornbury.

As you will be aware, South Gloucestershire Council are continuing to consider their Local Plan, which will set out the plans for further expansion of housing across South Gloucestershire. At the same time, the West of England Combined Authority will be working on its own "Spatial Development Strategy".

With these conversations progressing, we must remain on guard against the inappropriate and unsustainable proposal to build a 3,000 house 'Buckover Garden Village' on the fringe of Thornbury.

I have always campaigned fiercely against these inappropriate proposals to slap such a vast extension onto the edge of Thornbury, that would transform the identity of our town and infringe upon our landscape and natural environment and undermine Thornbury's heritage and public services. I will continue to make the case that Buckover is an unsustainable proposal, placing huge pressure and strain on the A38, and a near-total reliance on Thornbury's schools, transport network and crucially our health services. It cannot be supported.

Together we have previously surveyed every household in Thornbury and Alveston, and the results demonstrated the complete lack of community support for the Buckover plans. Following this I was pleased to hold debates in Parliament, raise our concerns repeatedly with Ministers, and help ensure that the Government did not support Buckover.

We have consistently proven through our community campaign that we have a clear voice on the Buckover proposal. We must continue to keep up this campaign. Though we should be proud as a community that we have so far defeated the plans, we must be on alert for similar plans to re-emerge.

It would simply be wrong for South Gloucestershire Council or WECA to pursue the Buckover plans again in this form or any other. South Gloucestershire Council and WECA have a responsibility to make sure that any development proposal is sustainable. Buckover isn't, and never was.

As South Gloucestershire Council and WECA discuss our housing plans, we must be ready to make the arguments again.

I remain completely opposed to poorly thought-out plans and inappropriate development for South Gloucestershire, and in my capacity as our local MP, I am having ongoing discussions at every level to make it crystal clear that the whole community rejects the poorly thought through plans.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'LH', written over a blue horizontal line.

**Luke Hall MP**  
**Member of Parliament for Thornbury, Yate, and the surrounding areas**