

Epping Forest District Council Representations to the Draft Local Plan Consultation 2016 (Regulation 18)

Stakeholder ID 3066 Name Damian Cooney

Method Survey

Date

This document has been created using information from the Council's database of responses to the Draft Local Plan Consultation 2016. Some elements of the full response such as formatting and images may not appear accurately. Should you wish to review the original response, please contact the Planning Policy team: ldfconsult@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Survey Response:

1. Do you agree with the overall vision that the Draft Plan sets out for Epping Forest District?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 1:

Proposed Development of Coopersale and Theydon Garnon CE Primary School playing fields The school is already oversubscribed and does not currently have the capacity to provide sufficient spaces for children within the catchment area. The proposal to build houses on the school playing fields is, therefore, fundamentally flawed. Not only does this proposal prohibit the school from expanding to meet current demands but it seems to have been forgotten that these demands will increase enormously with the proposed increased population within the Epping District area, and therefore, more school spaces will be required. This academic year (2016/17) Coopersale and Theydon Garnon Primary School was asked to take a double intake of children into the foundation year as this school was identified as being one of the few schools in the area with the capacity for growth. It is therefore, vital that this capacity and flexibility is maintained to cope with future demands, and therefore, the school grounds should be preserved to allow for this. It should not be forgotten that the school has an obligation to provide sporting and outdoor classroom space for the children as part of the curriculum. This will not be possible if the proposed development of the school grounds goes ahead. The school fully utilises the playing fields throughout the year for football, athletics, golf, rugby, sports day, science, geography, PTA, social and fundraising, church and local community events.

Proposed Development of Coopersale cricket pitch The cricket pitch is the only green space left in the village. It is used on a daily basis by village children as a place to meet and play. It is regularly used for village social activities and is used throughout the summer for cricket matches. You state that one of the aims of the Draft Local Plan is for an 'enhanced quality of life'. By removing the only green space, the only space whereby the local community can come together and the only space where the local children can play in relative safety, you will be significantly diminishing the quality of life for the majority of residents of Coopersale. You are failing to recognise that a community needs a heart and the cricket pitch and clubhouse provides that heart. It is the place where the local community comes together to socialise, play with their children, play sports and fundraise. By removing this facility, you will be ripping the heart out of the village. More concerning is the Draft Local Plan's complete ignorance of the Government's commitment to the provision of green spaces. The Public Health England report - Improving Access To Green Spaces; published for local authorities, clearly

Response to the Draft Local Plan Consultation 2016 (Regulation 18)

Stakeholder ID 3066

Name Damian

Cooney

identifies that local authorities have a responsibility to protect, increase and improve to local green spaces. The report identifies: •There is significant and growing evidence on the health benefits of access to good quality green spaces •Increasing the use of good quality green space for all social groups is likely to improve health outcomes •Local authorities play a vital role in protecting, maintaining and improving local green spaces. The new landscape for planners, set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance published in 2014, provides an opportunity for public health and planning departments in local authorities to work together to improve the health of local communities. Improving access to green spaces is an important part of this work. Why therefore, is the Epping Forest Draft Local Plan blatantly ignoring this? In addition, the Faculty of Public Health in association with Natural England has also identified that communities without green space see an increase in antisocial behaviour. Epping Forest District Council formed the Epping Forest District Safer Communities Partnership (Epping Forest District SCP) specifically to combat antisocial behaviour. You have shown your commitment to the abolition of antisocial behaviour. Why therefore, would you propose actions that are proven to directly increase the very thing you have publically stated you are committed to abolishing? I find the Draft Local Plan for Coopersale perverse in the extreme. I very strongly disagree with the Draft Local Plan in relation to the developments proposed for Coopersale and ask why Epping Forest District Council are proposing a development that clearly ignores its obligations towards the health and social welfare of the local community and the guidance set out by national government and its agencies as well as Epping Forest District Itself? http://eppingforest.consultationonline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/gravity_forms/3-fce9873862dde780a40e3cbe24771a88/2016/12/Briefing8_Green_spaces_health_inequalities.pdf

2. Do you agree with the overall vision that the Draft Plan sets out for Epping Forest District?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 2:

Please see my earlier comments http://eppingforest.consultationonline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/gravity_forms/3-fce9873862dde780a40e3cbe24771a88/2016/12/bs_great_outdoors.pdf

3. Do you agree with the proposals for development around Harlow?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 3:

Please see my earlier comments

4. Do you agree with the proposed shopping area in...

Epping?

No opinion

Buckhurst Hill?

No opinion

Loughton Broadway?

No opinion

Chipping Ongar?

No opinion

Loughton High Road?

No opinion

Waltham Abbey?

No opinion

Please explain your choice in Question 4:

5. Do you agree with the proposals for new employment development?

No opinion

Please explain your choice in Question 5:

6. Do you agree with the proposed sites in your area?

Epping (Draft Policy P 1):

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Epping:

Loughton (Draft Policy P 2)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Loughton:

Waltham Abbey (Draft Policy P 3)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Waltham Abbey:

Chipping Ongar (Draft Policy P 4)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Chipping Ongar:

Buckhurst Hill (Draft Policy P 5)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Buckhurst Hill:

North Weald Bassett (Draft Policy P 6)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on North Weald Bassett:

Chigwell (Draft Policy P 7)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on North Weald Bassett:

Theydon Bois (Draft Policy P 8)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Theydon Bois:

Roydon (Draft Policy P 9)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Roydon:

Nazeing (Draft Policy P 10)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Nazeing:

Thornwood (Draft Policy P 11)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Thornwood:

Coopersale, Fyfield, High Ongar, Lower Sheering, Moreton, Sewardstonbury, Sheering, Stapleford Abbots (Draft Policy P 12)

No

Response to the Draft Local Plan Consultation 2016 (Regulation 18)

Please provide reasons for your view on Coopersale, Fyfield, High Ongar, Lower Sheering, Moreton, Sewardstonbury, Sheering, Stapleford Abbots:

Proposed Development of Coopersale and Theydon Garnon CE Primary School playing fields: The school is already oversubscribed and does not currently have the capacity to provide sufficient spaces for children within the catchment area. The proposal to build houses on the school playing fields is, therefore, fundamentally flawed. Not only does this proposal prohibit the school from expanding to meet current demands but it seems to have been forgotten that these demands will increase enormously with the proposed increased population within the Epping District area, and therefore, more school spaces will be required. This academic year (2016/17) Coopersale and Theydon Garnon Primary School was asked to take a double intake of children into the foundation year as this school was identified as being one of the few schools in the area with the capacity for growth. It is therefore, vital that this capacity and flexibility is maintained to cope with future demands, and therefore, the school grounds should be preserved to allow for this. It should not be forgotten that the school has an obligation to provide sporting and outdoor classroom space for the children as part of the curriculum. This will not be possible if the proposed development of the school grounds goes ahead. The school fully utilises the playing fields throughout the year for football, athletics, golf, rugby, sports day, science, geography, PTA, social and fundraising, church and local community events.

Proposed Development of Coopersale cricket pitch: The cricket pitch is the only green space left in the village. It is used on a daily basis by village children as a place to meet and play. It is regularly used for village social activities and is used throughout the summer for cricket matches. You state that one of the aims of the Draft Local Plan is for an 'enhanced quality of life'. By removing the only green space, the only space whereby the local community can come together and the only space where the local children can play in relative safety, you will be significantly diminishing the quality of life for the majority of residents of Coopersale. You are failing to recognise that a community needs a heart and the cricket pitch and clubhouse provides that heart. It is the place where the local community comes together to socialise, play with their children, play sports and fundraise. By removing this facility, you will be ripping the heart out of the village. More concerning is the Draft Local Plan's complete ignorance of the Government's commitment to the provision of green spaces. The Public Health England report - Improving Access To Green Spaces; published for local authorities, clearly identifies that local authorities have a responsibility to protect, increase and improve to local green spaces. The report identifies:

- There is significant and growing evidence on the health benefits of access to good quality green spaces
- Increasing the use of good quality green space for all social groups is likely to improve health outcomes
- Local authorities play a vital role in protecting, maintaining and improving local green spaces.

The new landscape for planners, set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance published in 2014, provides an opportunity for public health and planning departments in local authorities to work together to improve the health of local communities. Improving access to green spaces is an important part of this work. Why therefore, is the Epping Forest Draft Local Plan blatantly ignoring this? In addition, the Faculty of Public Health in association with Natural England has also identified that communities without green space see an increase in antisocial behaviour. Epping Forest District Council formed the Epping Forest District Safer Communities Partnership (Epping Forest District SCP) specifically to combat antisocial behaviour. You have shown your commitment to the abolition of antisocial behaviour. Why therefore, would you propose actions that are proven to directly increase the very thing you have publically stated you are committed to abolishing? I find the Draft Local Plan for Coopersale perverse in the extreme. I very strongly disagree with the Draft Local Plan in relation to the developments proposed for Coopersale and ask why Epping Forest District Council are proposing a development that clearly ignores its obligations towards the health and social welfare of the local community and the guidance set out by national government and its agencies as well as Epping Forest District itself? http://eppingforest.consultationonline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/gravity_forms/3-fce9873862dde780a40e3cbe24771a88/2016/12/Briefing8_Green_spaces_health_inequalities1.pdf

7. Do you agree with the approach to infrastructure provision being proposed in the plan?

No opinion

Please explain your choice in Question 7:

8. An Interim Sustainability Appraisal has been commissioned to support the Draft Local Plan. We would welcome any comments you may have on this.
-

9. Do you wish to comment on any other policies in the Draft Local Plan?