

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

Stakeholder ID 1653 Name Kirsty Sullivan

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?

Disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 1:

Despite the council's stated aim of maintaining the current character of area, the plan as it stands will almost double the size of North Weald with no clear vision for supporting infrastructure, while much larger settlements like Epping, Buckhurst Hill, Loughton and Chigwell have significantly fewer homes planned, but have transport and schools in place. There is no coherent plan to improve the unreliable and disconnected transport links through North Weald, which would impact on the number of people prepared to work there, especially if as the council claimed, they were keen on getting people to use public transport.

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:

Despite the council's stated aim of maintaining the current character of area, the plan as it stands will almost double the size of North Weald with no clear vision for supporting infrastructure, while much larger settlements like Epping, Buckhurst Hill, Loughton and Chigwell have significantly fewer homes planned despite there being better infrastructure. There is also no clear steer on whether the number of homes to be built in the area will lead to new healthcare facilities (as the Epping surgeries are massively oversubscribed and have waiting times of well over a month for a non-urgent appointment); new schools (again, all the local schools are oversubscribed despite recent expansion to several) and transport links such as a reliable connected bus service or active attempts to create a train service or local park and ride to ease congestion. Currently the car park in Epping is full by 7am, as the closure of Ongar and North Weald stations in the 90s was followed by significant building in both locations with no improvement to infrastructure. If you're unwilling to be clear

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about realistic infrastructure support for any new development, especially one which will increase the size of North Weald by a significant amount, then you can't realistically expect the existing residents to support it.

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

Agree

Please explain your choice in Question 3:

There's a lot of green space around Harlow, as well as brownfield sites, and there are good transport links, schools and other facilities. As long as community sustainability is planned for, as in Berkeley Homes' Woolwich Arsenal development, it'll give Harlow a new lease of life and make it a more attractive place to live.

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

Epping?

Yes

Buckhurst Hill?

No opinion

Loughton Broadway?

No opinion

Chipping Ongar?

Yes

Loughton High Road?

Yes

Waltham Abbey?

Yes

Please explain your choice in Question 4:

We need to maintain the use of local areas to support local as well as larger businesses, otherwise town centres will be killed off in favour of out of town trading estates. Parking needs to be well thought and preferably free, however.

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

Agree

Please explain your choice in Question 5:

The area needs investment.

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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

Please provide reasons for your view on North Weald Bassett:

The sites aren't the problem, the quantity of housing is. Please see my earlier comments, Any building also needs to have a serious eye to sustainable urban drainage, as evidenced by the level of surface water flooding

in the village last winter. Green building, and building in keeping with the local area rather than flung-up Legoland structures would also be better for the village.

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 opinion

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

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

Disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 7:

The approach to infrastructure is woolly at best, and no councillor I spoke to at the consultation was able to satisfactorily answer questions on the subject. The building planned doesn't reflect the current under-resourced needs of the village, let alone the potential increase in numbers.

8. An Interim Sustainability Appraisal has been commissioned to support the Draft Local Plan. We would welcome any comments you may have on this.
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9. Do you wish to comment on any other policies in the Draft Local Plan?

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