

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

Stakeholder ID	1553	Name	Andy	Cobb
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### Letter or Email Response:

Hi I have been made aware of the Local Plan via a fellow parent at a local school and then by the LRA leaflet. My comments on the plan would be 1 - why have we not had any information on this from the council directly as it affects everyone in the district? It feels like this is a deal being done on the quiet without most local residents even being aware it even exists 2 - we must not loose the few green spaces we have left in the area. As a dog owner we walk our dog on Jessel and Rochford Green amongst others as it is not always practical to go to the forest every day or further afield. What makes this area attractive in comparison to towns closer to London is the open spaces and not feeling cramped in by a concrete jungle. I am also aware that these spaces are often used for vital community activities like the Debden day. Without those events the community spirit could be lost. 3 - I believe we pay subsidies to farmers to not farm their land. This makes no sense when buying up one farm could mean a new estate and not having to cram in all these new homes in to every spare pocket of land in the district. If you built new homes on new land then you fix the housing problem and stop some of the drain that is farming subsidies. 4 - where will the people in these homes work? what schools will their children go to? what transport will they use? I am not aware of a shortage in workers in the area, there is certainly a shortage of school places and the central line is at capacity as it is as are the roads. 5 - if you do go ahead and use up the few green spaces that exist what will you replace them with? 6 - can brownfield sites not be used. There does appear to be a number of sites across the district where companies have folded that the land could be turned over to housing. In summary, I think the plan means we are losing some of the things that make this district the great area that it is. We will end up overcrowded and under resourced when there would appear to be better alternatives given proper planning and consultation

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