

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

Stakeholder ID	3333	Name	Chris	Gossan	Epping Youth Football Club
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Method	Letter
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Date	14/1/2017
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### Letter or Email Response:

Dear Sir/Madam Proposed Mixed Use Development at North Weald Park I am writing in connection with a proposed mixed use development opportunity being put forward on the North Weald Golf Club site by a consortium of developers. Following several rounds of discussions, Epping Youth Football Club have signed heads of term to locate to a purpose-built facility at the proposed North Weald Park development. This is a truly once in a life time opportunity that will transform our club and provide the youth of the area with unrivalled facilities. Although our focus is on the sports facilities, we consider that the scheme can provide many other benefits for our area, our players and members. As a club that has players from the ages of 4-16 we are keen that any developments in the area can benefit a wide range of people. The North Weald Park scheme has proposed a specialist academy/grammar school, primary school and the employment opportunities that many of our players need after they finish school. We will also be working with the developers to promote the use of apprentices in the construction sector on this site. There is a chronic shortage of both open market and affordable housing in the area that this development addresses alongside so many other benefits. Of concern is how house prices are rapidly rising thus severely affecting young people. To complement these houses is the provision of much needed business space so that the people who live in the houses have places to work. These houses will provide council tax and business rates which will further strengthen the council's finances which in turn can be invested into local projects in the long term. As a scheme that is following garden village principles, the commitment to outside space as shown on the northern portion of the site is very welcome by us and further proves this scheme is about integrating itself into the community allowing access to walking trails and green space for both residents of the new houses and existing residents of North Weald and the surrounding villages. Although we appreciate the complexities of the planning process, a scheme that provides a whole host of benefits and that clearly has the community betterment as a central pillar, needs to be taken seriously as the benefits far outweigh those provided purely by housing only developments. Yours faithfully

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

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