

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

Stakeholder ID	4596	Name	Christina and David	Whittington
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Date	11/12/2016
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### Letter or Email Response:

We are writing to express our deep concerns and unhappiness about the plans to reduce our access to public open spaces in Loughton. We are concerned that plans to develop green spaces into flats houses etc. will totally change our environment detrimentally impacting on our welfare both physically and mentally. The plans are further examples of changes to the community without the permission of those communities. A subject that has even now been raised by the Prime Minister. Loughton is already crowded as can be clearly seen by the number of people using the tube station to commute. This is another step towards Loughton being swallowed up by the urban sprawl of East London. It seems that our council cares more for cash than the residents as other Essex districts are making plans to improve the environment by making garden villages. Why isn't our district council following this lead? We live in Chester Road and we have used Jessel Green to walk our dog, **...redacted...**. We use the green daily and have done so since we moved here 8 years ago. Our daughters use it to run and we often see people exercising on the green. There are very few green belt spaces that can be used for running and playing games. There is also a sense of security in using the green for this. We have even recently seen the Essex air ambulance use Jessel Green to land to treat a trauma patient. Much of the appeal of the green is its expansive feel so, even if development only used part of it, this feeling would be lost. The green spaces were planned to be used by the community and as a suburban area we residents expect this to be honoured. The greens are needed even more today than when they were originally planned. In an age where we are concerned about child hood obesity and how this links to inactivity in children these public open spaces are even more valuable to our families and should be protected for this reason alone. In addition, we would like to protest about the plans to build flats on the Loughton car park. A high-rise block of flats would destroy the character of Loughton. We use this daily and we work for the NHS and therefore work shifts. I would not feel safe using an underground or multi storey car park and there are some low levels of crime already committed in this area. We feel this is likely to rise if the car park were enclosed in this way. To conclude we are against developments that will change the character and green environment of Loughton. The green spaces are valuable to Loughton for all sorts of recreation and exercise, and should not be removed from the community.

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

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Stakeholder ID 4596

Name Christina and David Whittington

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