

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

Stakeholder ID	4205	Name	Carolyn Bentley
----------------	------	------	-----------------

Method	Email
--------	-------

Date	7/12/2016
------	-----------

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

Letter or Email Response:

To whom it may concern: Here are some of the main points that I wish to make known about the green spaces that are under threat of development. Spaces that were essential to the planners at the outset of the estate in Loughton and needed even more now. •The walk to the top of Jessel Green is one of the highlights of daily life. There is nowhere else within walking distance to get that beautiful 360 degree view. •The lay out of the Debden estate is unique and beautiful, it is incredible for well-being, in a life where we are generally tightly packed. •Mental health and general well-being is proven to benefit from access to open space. •I've watched people doing Tai Chi there •Personal trainers use the space, and the hill is integral to that training. •The dog walkers. One of the few times when strangers get talking is when they are out with their dogs, some of whom only get human contact when they meet up on the green, especially the older generation, most of whom don't have transport. It's how some of us make friends, and share problems and advise each other on all manner of things, not just dogs. •Great for picnics. •Parents enjoy meeting up with their children after school, not just the play area but the whole green, in the warmer weather. •Its fantastic for kite flying, the open space at the top being perfect. •Its a great slope for sledging (when snow arrives) •The greens are fantastic for collecting a variety of leaves in the autumn, to use for children's crafts at the nursery **....Redacted....** I picked up so many different colours, shapes and sizes, a great natural tool for education. •I use the green when I want to pray over important issues, I feel able to communicate with God from the top of Jessel Green, it is a very spiritual place and has to be preserved in total. •Once these spaces are gone, they are gone forever along with the life that lived there. Think of all the life in the soil, insects, invertebrates, bees and birds that share this space. •Summer activities are organised on Jessel Green, allowing the local community to fully use the space, integrate, all within walking distance. •I took it upon myself to collect rubbish up when walking my dog, because I care deeply that these greens are not abused. Unfortunately and I have no idea why, two dog poo bins on Jessel Green have disappeared, the latest one went this year and the one in the middle of the green went 2-3 years ago. You can hardly encourage some people to clear up their dog poo by removing the bins. •The air ambulance has used this space on more than one occasion in recently. •More homes mean more need for A&E, the nearest being half hour or more away in Harlow/Whipps Cross. Instead of filling Loughton up with more supermarkets and retailers, people need more than food and trinkets to nourish them. Yes affordable housing is needed, especially for our youngsters who could never afford to buy in this area, but also doctors, health clinics and sports facilities for public use. A garden village has been suggested, and certainly with the amount of homes you are talking about, squeezing them into existing estates is not feasible. If you are really looking at the future then that may be the only option, which will take some sensitive planning and probably a joint exercise with other adjoining district councils. While you're building in Langston Road, why not incorporate housing there and facilities and a connecting bridge over the central line to link that area to

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

Stakeholder ID	4205
----------------	------

Name	Carolyn Bentley
------	-----------------

Bentley

Debden. The Broadway is a hub for the local community and I love shopping along there, if that dies then the heart of Debden dies with it. The market in Debden used to be much better, now there are hardly any stalls. Is it the cost to the traders that is the problem? We need a lively market there, to bring in more custom for all, you should encourage that. It is not just what's sold there but a market is part of the character of a town and an attraction to visitors. It's good that you are using the site of the old garages to build in Burton Road but I hope these homes really are affordable and pleasant to live in. In the last twenty years Loughton has changed, homes have been built on the old college site in Borders Lane; Willingale School sold off land and there's now a small estate there in Eversley Close. Pockets of housing has been built near Hereward School and other areas all over Debden. Each time the houses are absorbed into the community but with no extra facilities. The Lucton's Field site has been left uncared for and frankly dangerous because of litter, broken glass, etc, I wouldn't want to walk a dog over there. It could be a beautiful space with a green zone at its heart. The view of London is phenomenal from there and that would be lost forever. Why can't you develop around the edges of Luctons field and leave a fantastic green zone in the middle, preserve the view from Borders Lane, add in some tennis courts or other facilities (for everyone to use) and keep it affordable, with 2 & 3 bed homes. Again very sensitive planning would be needed there.