
Stakeholder Reference:
Document Reference:

Part A

Making representation as Resident or Member of the General Public

Personal Details	Agent's Details (if applicable)
Title	Mrs
First Name	Sophia
Last Name	Newton
Job Title (where relevant)	
Organisation (where relevant)	
AddressRedacted....
Post Code	
Telephone NumberRedacted....
E-mail AddressRedacted....

Part B

REPRESENTATION

To which part of the Pre Submission Epping Forest District Local Plan does this representation relate?

Paragraph: 5.23

Policy: P 1 Epping

Policies Map:

Site Reference: EPP.R5

Settlement: Epping

Do you consider this part of the Pre Submission Local Plan to be:

Legally compliant: No

Sound: No

If no, then which of the soundness test(s) does it fail? Justified, Consistent with national policy

Complies with the duty to co-operate? No

Please give details either of why you consider the Submission Version of the Local Plan is not legally compliant, is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate; or of why the Submission Version of the Local Plan is legally compliant, is sound or complies with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible. Please use this box to set out your comments.

To build on Epping Sports Centre is unsound, unjustified and incompatible with national policy for the following reasons: It takes away a community facility which is well-used by those in the community. It does not comply with national policy to enhance the quality of lives in existing urban areas. If the sports centre is outside of Epping, then people won't be able to walk to it and will need to drive. This will adversely impact people's health and will worsen the air quality with pollution. It will also be very detrimental for people's mental health, as people will get less physical exercise by having to drive to the centre, and they will not see people they know/can connect with on the walk there - this fosters positive mental health as well as community relations. I have personal experience of connecting with others on the walk to the centre, and so do many others I speak to. This is so important for maintaining positive mental health, and has been for me and many others I know. Likewise it is important to keep the community facility of the sports centre in the heart of Epping to help foster friendships and a sense of community as people can go to the high street for a coffee together after their workout. If the centre is outside of Epping, people will be less inclined to go and exercise and be healthy in general as it seems further away and takes longer to get to than a local facility. This is inconsistent with national policy to help people maintain healthy lifestyles. There also is no clear strategy of where to put the Sports Centre if it were closed and people would therefore not be able to use a facility which they are paying for through taxes etc. To eradicate a facility which services the ENTIRE community of Epping for 43 homes is totally unjustified and unreasonable.

In addition, the local community was not properly consulted on this specific part of the plan, as can be evidenced from the petition with hundreds of signatures on with local residents trying to keep the sports centre in Epping.

Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Pre Submission Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the test you have identified in the question above (Positively prepared/Justified/Effective/ Consistent with National Policy) where this relates to soundness. You will need to say why this change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

The sports centre MUST stay in Epping and stay where it is for the policy to be sound and legally compliant. The site was due to accommodate just 43 homes. These homes should be accommodated as a block of flats on other site, such as tacked on to a bigger site, like the land south of Epping (site EPP.R1) or on St John's Road (site EPP.R4).

If your representation is seeking a modification, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination?

Yes, I wish to participate at the oral part of the oral examination

If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

I am very happy to talk to the inspector about the issues from the perspective of a local resident, who has experienced what these community facilities can provide in terms of quality of life.

REPRESENTATION

To which part of the Pre Submission Epping Forest District Local Plan does this representation relate?

Paragraph: 5.23

Policy: P 1 Epping

Policies Map:

Site Reference: EPP.R11

Settlement: Epping

Do you consider this part of the Pre Submission Local Plan to be:

Legally compliant: No

Sound: No

If no, then which of the soundness test(s) does it fail? Effective, Justified, Consistent with national policy

Complies with the duty to co-operate? No

Please give details either of why you consider the Submission Version of the Local Plan is not legally compliant, is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate; or of why the Submission Version of the Local Plan is legally compliant, is sound or complies with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible. Please use this box to set out your comments.

To remove the local library, and therefore The Brambles Children's Centre is unsound, unjustified and incompatible with national policy for the following reasons: Both these facilities are ones that are well used by the local community and serve the local community. National policy states that councils should work to improve the lives of existing urban areas, but eradicating these facilities will worsen the quality of life for the community. This is because the library serves as a place to meet others, including other mums at baby singing groups, and fosters a love of reading and learning for children, by widening their options of books and igniting their interest in reading. Many people cannot afford to keep buying more and more books, and the library means children can stay interested in reading. This is vital for life-long learning and for children to stay on the right path in life.

The Children's Centre is a life-line for many parents including myself. There have been many occasions where I could not get organised enough to get my children in the car for a journey further away (which takes up more time), but I could manage to get them into the pram,

and go to a parent-child group. The brilliance of these groups is that you can drop in and not have to pay for a term in advance, which is so important as many cannot afford to pay termly, especially when you can't guarantee you'll be able to go every time. Myself and so many other mums and parents have found that attending these classes makes a HUGE positive difference to your mental health and gives the opportunity to chat to other parents and feel less alone. This will save the NHS so many resources and so much money, as more people can connect with each other, and fewer people become depressed as a result. Especially new mums who are at great risk of post-natal depression.

To eradicate these centres, or take them out of Epping centre is going against national policy to improve people's lives, mental and physical health as currently, people can walk to them to get exercise, and also improve their mental health. These centres do this for the ENTIRE Epping community.

To do this for the sake of just 11 homes is totally unjustified and totally unreasonable.

Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Pre Submission Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the test you have identified in the question above (Positively prepared/Justified/Effective/ Consistent with National Policy) where this relates to soundness. You will need to say why this change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

The library and children's centre MUST stay in Epping and stay where it is for the policy to be sound and legally compliant. The site was due to accommodate just 11 homes. These homes should be accommodated as a block of flats on other site, such as tacked on to a bigger site, like the land south of Epping (site EPP.R1) or on St John's Road (site EPP.R4).

If your representation is seeking a modification, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination?

Yes, I wish to participate at the oral part of the oral examination

If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

I am happy to express my views in person to the inspector.

Please let us know if you wish to be notified when the Epping Forest District Local Plan is submitted for independent examination

Yes

Signature: Sophia Newton Date: 22/01/2018

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Epping Forest District Council

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