

28th January 2018

To: Independent EFD Local Plan Inspector
Re: Site LOU.R5

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the inclusion of Jessel Green (site LOU.R5) in the local plan for development.

Jessel Green provides vital access to green space for local people. The Government's POSTnote 538 Green Space and Health published in October 2016 emphasises the links between green space, such as Jessel Green, and improved mental and physical health, including reduction in mortality caused by cardiovascular disease. Building on such important green space would be a short-sighted decision, ultimately reducing the quality of life for people in the area, and increasing costs associated with ill health for local government.

The argument that the proximity of Epping Forest meets the needs to local people to access to green space is disingenuous; it is simply not accessible to the elderly or many with young children, and is for the most part too isolated to feel safe for lone women, or for children to venture unsupervised. Epping Forest is a beautiful area, in which I have spent many hours walking, but it is not somewhere to clear your head for 10 minutes after work, or pop out for a kickabout on a Saturday morning. The green space in Debden forms much of the charm of the estate, and was included to improve the wellbeing of those former residents of East London who first moved to the estate following the end of World War Two . That green space is as important now as it was 60 years ago.

Jessel Green is a vital community resource and as such I urge you to remove site LOU.R5 from the local plan, and support the issue of Local Green Space Designation.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Jennifer Peters