

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	Jeanette	
Last Name	Blanks	
Job Title (where relevant)		
Organisation (where relevant)		
Address		, ,
Post Code		
Telephone Number		
E-mail Address		

Part B

REPRESENTATION

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

Paragraph:

Policy: None of the above

Policies Map:

Site Reference: None of the above

Settlement: North Weald Bassett

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

Legally compliant: Don't Know

Sound: No

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

Complies with the duty to co-operate? Don't Know

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.

In the almost 40 years that I have lived in North Weald there has been virtually no investment in infrastructure. On the contrary, the one doctors surgery we had has been closed, the one dentist we had closed years ago, the Police station closed. There have been no new shops, no roads, no cycle paths. The bus service is intermittent using dilapidated vehicles. Even the Police station in Epping has closed. In short we are worse off now than when we moved here, despite there being substantially more houses built here over the same period.

From detailed examination of the present plan I can detect no firm commitment to even rectify the losses we have experienced despite a proposed doubling of the number of houses in North Weald. The congestion and travel difficulties at the Plain junction and at the M11 roundabout are well known and studies have confirmed that they are already over capacity, yet the apparent remedy favoured in the plan is to force the ageing population to cycle everywhere. I have particular fears that ambulances and fire engines will be rendered virtually immobile with the doubling of houses but no road improvements.

Significantly the only infrastructure of note carried out by EFDC has been to spend millions of taxpayers money in building a retail shopping park in Debden that can only be accessed by road thereby adding to the already congested ancient roads and consuming funds which could have been used for the good of the community.

The plan appears to have been written by consultants who have set out the requirement of an increased population but have failed to translate it to actual ideas and commitments.

It seems to me that the plan is ill-thought out, inadequate in content and has no positive ideas on how an increasing population can expect an improved life experience. It is a sad waste of time, money and opportunity.

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.

Provision of details of infrastructure and funding of it

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

No, I do not wish to participate at oral examination

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

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The early stages of the preparation of the plan filled me with hope that we could expect some improvement to our lives that we could influence by providing input to a future plan. When the results of the consultation were announced in 2013 I was concerned that the numbers of additional housing proposed for the district would be difficult to assimilate but encouraged by the majority consensus view that the increase would be proportionate across the whole of the EFDC area so as to not adversely affect individual areas and preserve the overall 'feel' of the district.

I was horrified to discover from the plan that this proportionate distribution of development had been abandoned and that North Weald could expect to roughly double in size from around 2,400 houses to almost 5,000. In fact roughly a quarter of the whole 11,000 planned would be inflicted on us whereas the similar sized village of Theydon Bois where the plan leader and our local MP live would have just 57.

This unfairness cannot be right and the trust that I had in the Council to produce a plan based on what they publicly acknowledged what residents wanted and expected has been misplaced. I have severe misgivings that the faith I placed in EFDC to carry out the stated wishes of those that elected them will ever be carried out.

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To remove the unfairness to North Weald and spread the development throughout the District in proportion to existing dwellings

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

Yes

Signature: Jeanette Blanks Date: 26/01/2018

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Epping Forest District Council

Postmaster@Eppingforestdc.gov.uk