

From: Nick Agnew <....Redacted....>

Sent: 09 December 2022 16:30

To: Contact Planning <....Redacted....>

Cc:Redacted....

Subject: EFDC Local Plan consultation - comments on document ED 145 091222 - Transport-related issues

Importance: High

CAUTION: This Message originated outside of Epping Forest District Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

For the attention of the EFDC Local Plan consultation team

I have forwarded comments to EFDC ('contactplanning@eppingforestdc.gov.uk') as shown below.

Firstly, comments previously made (e.g., impact of any developments from TfL/National Rail service providers relating to future (station) car parking provision, potential growth of 'rail-heading' to (particularly Central Line) stations in the district) stand. More recently, I believe that the ability of many *public* transport operators to resource their services/networks against a nation-wide backdrop of staff shortages linked to increasing difficulties of operators to attract/retain staff is a key issue in servicing the Plan's desire to achieve appropriate transport services/networks to support the Local Plan, including successfully achieving modal transfer from private to public transport in the future.

Looking at the present level of congestion in Epping linked to car/private vehicle usage and acknowledging factors such as the impact of both 'temporary' loss of parking in the area makes it difficult to accept that there is a robust transport plan that can assess the longer-term implications for modal choice and 'regularity/reliability' on journey times alone (and therefore choice of mode) when the plan is completed. In particular, the ability to fund supported but essential transport services/links as well as introduce 'innovative' transport options such as dial-a-ride services that can serve new/additional housing areas is likely to be adversely affected by the prevailing/future funding & economic crisis. Looking at related issues such as encouraging housing provision for older people, the combination of restricted parking options and concerns over access to adequate public transport options are likely to see many older people living in some areas of 'new build' reluctant/unable to retain the desired level of mobility. Adverse impact is unlikely to be restricted to older people; many younger people living in the area are certainly discouraged by poor transport services by destination/time of day and when unable/unwilling to afford private transport will question the ability to maintain existing services in the future or to obtain improvements in levels/networks.

Six weeks for the latest consultation is a concern and as an example, the inclusion of statements such as section MM 77 on page 104 below requires adequate consultation time to obtain assurance that statements such as that below are tested as 'deliverable' in more detail than the current consultation period has allowed:

New paragraph after Paragraph 5.23: "Sustainable Transport Choices x.xx A key consideration for development proposals in Epping, is to ensure that new development provides opportunities to access jobs, services, education and leisure opportunities through walking, cycling and public transport. This will include the provision of safe and convenient routes to key destinations, including to Epping London Underground Station. Measures should provide viable alternatives to private car use and prevent the establishment of unsustainable travel behaviour."

Yours sincerely,

Nick Agnew

....Redacted....