

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

Stakeholder ID	3826	Name	Amanda Willson	Innocence Childcare
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Method	Letter
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Date	12/12/2016
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Letter or Email Response:

I live in ...Redacted... and have done for some 20 years and one of the main reasons we bought our house was because of the beautiful open spaces of Jessel Green, which is 50 yards from my house. As an Ofsted registered childminder I care for many children in the area and we use the green on a regular basis, especially in the summer for picnics, bike rides, flying kites or just generally walking and playing together. The children thoroughly enjoy the freedom to just run around and as it's a safe and open space it enables me (and others who use the area) to see exactly what the children within my care are doing at all times and it would be a tragedy to take this from them as there is nothing nearby to us like this. I have a special needs child and he loves the freedom of running, it is his only form of exercise where I can observe him safely and still watch the other children in my care. His parents have both commented on how it improves his ability to express and exercise his muscles. The local fitness companies to do the "Boot camp style" training frequently use the space and the annual fun day that is hosted by the Cottage Loaf Pub is now a huge event that was attended by c.2000 people and is used by all the local community. During the winter when snow falls you can see hundreds of families with children all sledging and enjoying themselves and this would not happen again if this plan went ahead. I am also very concerned that there is no infrastructure put in place for this new development; already the doctors and schools are overcrowded and struggle with the amount of people in the area. Our doctors alone have 14,000 people on their register and it can take a week to 10 days to get an appointment. There are also long waiting lists in the local schools. The 167 bus service is soon to be stopped and no longer going through the Debden estate which makes getting around even harder for those of us that have to rely on public transport. You always see the children playing on the field after school whilst they wait for their buses and taking this away from them will just create distress and reduce the amount of play time and exercise. On a more serious note in the last six months alone the Air Ambulance has landed on the green at least 5 times - that I have witnessed - so it could be more! I also heard that there is a river that runs underneath Jessel Green, which is why the ...Redacted... is unable to have a cellar because of the high water table, and it would cause flooding. Surely this will cause issues on any development built in that location? The disruption that the new buildings works would cause (if this sadly went ahead) will be considerably dangerous for the local children walking to and from school and the elderly that use the green pathway to cross over the roads. There is also very limited parking in or around Jessel Green for residents' cars which already causes us a great deal of grief as it's almost impossible to park your car near to home. A new development would increase this problem even more and in turn generate anger and frustration between residents. I totally understand that you have pressure from the government to "Do your bit" but why can't you build just outside the local area rather than take what little green space is left. Over the years new housing has already reduced these areas considerably. There are

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some other areas that wouldn't affect thousands of residents and would suggest these are considered instead: 1. There is huge amounts of deserted overgrown land near Woolston Manor just past the M11 bridge which wouldn't impact existing Debden Estate residents. 2. You also have wide-open spaces in Langston Road, which have been unused for years. This would also enhance the area as regeneration is key and will house people within walking distance of Debden Station and shops (which need additional business) I would be very grateful if you'd please consider these options and understand just how important Jessel Green is to all the local residents. It would be completely devastating to lose such a wonderful place in the heart of Debden. Please, please, please think very carefully before causing so much destruction to our community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there's anything else that you need, as I would be very interested in hearing your thoughts.