

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

Stakeholder ID	4529	Name	pamela	scott
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Letter or Email Response:

I am writing to express my objection to the draft local plan. I have lived in Loughton for over 50 years. In that time it has obviously grown but it has always been a nice town to live in. However it is now rapidly becoming overdeveloped and is losing its character and individuality. Applications are now approved which formerly would have been deemed inappropriate, resulting in a claustrophobic feel and loss of light. One house or pub comes down and is replaced by flats. It is changing from a desirable leafy town to a concrete jungle. If I want to drive to Valley Hill around 9.00 am I now go via Buckhurst Hill since the traffic comes to a complete standstill at the mini roundabout at the bottom of Alderton Hill, yet the tennis courts that have been on that corner ever since I have lived in Loughton have now been torn up and retirement flats are being built. Flats at the bottom of Alderton Hill, a prestigious road in Loughton, are entirely out of character. Added to that, vehicles for the retirement flats will not even be able to leave the premises because of the gridlocked traffic at that junction. Where is the sense in that - just even more traffic, more pollution and more loss of a bit of open space. If you walk along Loughton High Road around 4.30 you can actually overtake the home bound traffic which is edging along at a snail's pace wasting fuel and more importantly producing pollution. Where is the sense in adding to this? Has anyone actually taken readings of pollution levels in the High Road to see if they already exceed acceptable levels? The tube is massively overcrowded, if you get on at Loughton after 7.00 am it is almost certain you will not get a seat so bringing more people to live in Loughton is certainly going to exacerbate an intolerable situation. Has the knock-on effect been taken into account - parking spaces in Loughton have diminished whilst it is proposed to increase the population so resulting in a need for more parking spaces. The roads are full of potholes which will be aggravated by ever more traffic using them. People need space both for recreational purposes but also some open areas left for a breathing space and this proposed infill of green spaces and even station car parks is unacceptable, it is time to say no to any more development. It is leading to stress and a deteriorating quality of life and also impacting on health levels as pollution increases. The alternative of a garden village must be the way forward.

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