

As a Loughton residentRedacted....., I have often used Jessel Green for walkingRedacted..... and playing there with mRedacted..... warmer months, we also use the small play pRedacted..... top of the area.

In a time when everyone is complaining about childhood obesity and lack of exercise, it seems insane to rip up this delightful area (which was given to us, the people, in the name of George Jessel himself, who fought to save Epping Forest) and build many, many houses on the site. With that, you can add the two cars to every family home you create.

The upshot of this is a strain on the local infrastructure. The roads will be gridlocked, the rush-hour tube filled to capacity and the local schools are already stretched to their limits. That's without further stresses to the local healthcare service in the area. Are you going to be building more schools, fixing the roads, creating more hospitals to accommodate this increase in local population? No.

One of the features of living in Loughton is the feeling that you are connected to Epping Forest by its characteristic open spaces. You will be taking those spaces away from us, the people, and those spaces were given to us in perpetuity. We don't have any council-maintained parks or areas that families to go or our children can play in safely.

While I appreciate the need for more housing, I feel that the plan is completely wrong. The council needs to think in terms of expansion (even if that means encroaching into Epping Forest) rather than land-grabbing any piece of land it feels is suitable without any further investment to local amenities and infrastructure.

Thank you for reading thisRedacted.....

.....Redacted.....