Resources



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By email to: ldfconsult@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Response to Epping Forest District Local Plan (Submission Version 2017)

The following response is sent by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) Property (Development Services) on behalf of Children's Services.

Epping Forest District is located to the south east of Hertfordshire. There are five settlements (Lower Sheering, Sheering, Nazeing, Roydon, and Waltham Abbey) within the District that border Hertfordshire which may potentially result in some cross boundary issues with regard to the provision of school places.

HCC are aware that children in Epping Forest District attend primary school in Hertfordshire and vice versa. This dynamic should be considered in the context of both Epping Forest's Local Plan and its school place planning.

The development of Epping Forest needs to ensure that sufficient school places are provided in tandem with the proposed housing to prevent additional pressure being placed on existing schools where there are already capacity issues.

The settlements that have a close relationship with Hertfordshire are listed below.

Lower Sheering and Sheering

There are 14 homes proposed in Lower Sheering and 84 homes in Sheering. These communities, particularly Lower Sheering, often look to Sawbridgeworth for school places. For some Essex children living in Lower Sheering, Sawbridgeworth schools are their closest. The housing numbers proposed by Epping Forest District should not have any significant impact on school places in Sawbridgeworth; however it is important to note that East Herts District Council have housing proposals for around 500 new homes in Sawbridgeworth and the existing Sawbridgeworth primary schools are currently full. There is very little expansion potential within these schools and the expansion potential which is available is required to meet the pupil

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yield arising from the new housing proposals within Sawbridgeworth itself.

No mention is made within the policy of how the pupil yield arising from the developments in Sheering and Lower Sheering can be met.

Nazeing

122 homes are proposed in Nazeing. The infrastructure requirements propose expansion of an existing primary school, but no reference is made to how the secondary pupil yield will be met. Children from Nazeing look to Broxbourne Borough for a secondary school place. A new secondary school is proposed at Cheshunt in the Broxbourne Local Plan towards the end of the plan period. There is some existing capacity and some expansion potential within existing schools.

Roydon

62 homes are proposed at Roydon. This level of growth will have a minimal impact on school places in Hertfordshire.

Waltham Abbey

858 residential units are proposed in Waltham Abbey. The infrastructure requirements linked with this development propose expansion of two existing primary schools and the potential relocation and expansion of an existing secondary school in the area to meet the pupil yield. The additional school capacity proposed would avoid putting additional pressure on schools in Waltham Cross in Broxbourne Borough. No provision has been made in Waltham Cross to meet demand across the border in Waltham Abbey.

I hope these comments are of assistance and if you require any further details, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Martin Wells

Senior Planning Officer Development Services-Property