

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

Stakeholder ID	3514	Name	Angela	Burbidge
Method	Letter			
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Letter or Email Response:

STRONG OBJECTION TO PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS -in particular, BROOK ROAD, IVY CHIMNEYS and STEWARDS GREEN ROAD I am writing to make the strongest objection possible to these developments, and to some of the other proposals. I cannot believe that you are proposing to encroach on green belt land. This is a fundamental part of our way of life in this area and is what provides us with our small market town in a rural area. We don't want to become just another suburb of London which is what will happen. It is insulting to talk about the "release" of green belt land. It would be more appropriate to describe it as the destruction of green belt land. My specific points against the proposals are as follows:

- The area is already struggling with volumes of traffic and lack of parking. Commuters cannot get parked at the station and use the spaces outside our houses to park - sometimes dangerously. Proposals to reduce the use of Epping Station are unrealistic in their hoped for outcome and building on the car parks will not help at all. This will be made much worse by the addition of these estates.
- The proposed building will increase volumes of traffic dramatically. Most family homes now have 2 cars and garages are used for extra storage, not cars. There are already long queues at the junctions and access points to the Station, to the Forest Gate Inn junction, through Ivy Chimneys and very slow traffic through the town. Additional building, particularly in the locations above, will have a very severe impact on our way of life - greater difficulty accessing facilities, finding somewhere to park and the amount of time queuing, with a subsequent impact on air pollution. The access roads - Brook Road and Bridge Hill cannot cope with this. If you propose to widen and create more access points this will not only make the problem worse but ruin the nature of the area.
- Increase in traffic volume will significantly increase the amount of pollution. Epping High Street is already high on the Essex list of car pollution and the proposals will make this much worse - and this in areas where we have both Ivy Chimneys and Coopersale Hall schools.
- I strongly object to any removal of any existing trees and hedgerows which would be necessary to provide this extra housing and road access. The essence of this area is a rural one which will be ruined by any further removal of hedgerows or trees many of which have preservation orders on them. We should be working to return skylarks and cuckoos to our fields - not removing the basics needed for birds and wildlife in our surroundings.
- We have a bat population in the area which is a protected species and has been dwindling in recent years. I rescued a bat in my garden this summer and once it was well enough to be released again it headed across the road towards the trees and wooded area which was where the Bat Society member said would be its feeding ground.
- I don't know how the consultants found the data presented in your report. It does not have any similarity to my own experience having lived in Epping for over 30 years, (born in St Margaret's hospital) or of my friends and neighbours who I have spoken to about this. The underground at the busiest times is already at its limit for capacity. It takes ages to get a doctor's appointment. There is not the infrastructure to support your proposals and if you were to try and address this it would result in the problems I have already outlined.
- I can't believe that you propose to build on the Sports

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Centre. The centre supports the social life and health of all ages in Epping-and most of us using it will pop to the shops while we are visiting and so supporting our local shops rather than going to larger out of town stores. It is a unique place where the generations come together - young people, young mums and older people. Removal of this facility elsewhere will damage the town -encouraging people to go further afield (more traffic)and impact both on the high street shops and the health and social life of all who use it regularly. Finally I would like to add that I realise we need some additional housing but the outlined proposals are totally disproportionate for our area. I think there is more scope for development at Thornwood and North Weald. I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this letter as I have delivered it by hand. Thank youRedacted....Contrary to Local Plan Policies