

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

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Date	11/12/2016
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Letter or Email Response:

Loughton - Response to Draft Local Plan Having studied the available information on display in the local library, I would make the following observation: The details given are merely a numeric value for the number of homes currently planned for erection and an indication of their intended siting. Surely planning committees could present information that would help to illuminate the effect of the planned homes e.g. any change in population density/ any increase in demand for school places/ medical & dental places/ any changes in demand for tube / bus services/ the likely effect on traffic flow in the area. Such information would inform debate about 'quality of life' issues if the planning is accepted. 1 - No urban intensification of our town please - surely an out of town garden village is a better alternative for Loughton which has become much too crowded with all roads & services under stress. 2 - No building on Loughton's public urban open space please - the green spaces are our parks, badly needed for recreation, the physical and mental health of large numbers of residents. 3 - Not enough infrastructure delivery - the District Council does not control these critical aspects and has no power to increase the capacity of roads, schools or doctors to cope with the proposed new homes. 4 - Central Line has no more capacity - for years a very overcrowded service at times when people must use it. This town has a lot of commuters - to add more will worsen travelling stress, degrade residents health & quality of life. 5 - Loughton's green spaces should not be in the Local Plan - they are needed more than rural Green Belt miles from residents. The Council values revenue from land it owns more than the wellbeing of 32,000 Loughton residents. 6 - Car Parks & flats on top - more parking and flats are welcome if only two storeys, any higher would destroy the open aspect of each site. Residents fear the Council and developers will be too greedy and want to impose 3 to 4 storeys. 7 - No High Buildings please - ask any resident how much they value the open aspect and leafy character of this town. A major reason for Loughton's appeal is because about 98% of all existing homes are no higher than two 2 storeys. 8 - Loughton's Urban Open Spaces need future protection - Loughton Town Council submitted the evidence for Village Green registration years ago. The District & County Council have not granted this yet. Can you please tell me why not?

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