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

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Letter or Email Response:

we wish to object most strongly to any proposal to build on green spaces within Loughton parish, and would urge an alternative solution if an increase in housing is necessary, e.g. a garden village type development, possibly towards Harlow.   We have for the past twenty years (Jack, Alice), thirty (Stephen), forty-plus (Emma) , made consistent use of the greens in Debden and other areas for children's play, walking, cycling and similar recreational activities. Loughton is one of the very few places left close to central London which doesn't feel claustrophobic with high-rise buildings and endless built-up streets. Further residential development within Loughton parish will lead inevitably to even greater pressure on land for building additional schools, medical facilities and car parks, not to mention greater pressure on the Central Line tube, bases and congested local roads. Apart from commuter parking spreading ever wider around the stations, many local residential roads are pavement-parked on both sides, making them effectively single-track roads, with consequent danger to pedestrians and difficulties for through traffic.   In summary, the ability of Loughton parish to absorb additional housing is extremely limited. Any further development should be concentrated away from the Central Line, for example around Harlow to make use of alternative transport links to London.