

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

Stakeholder ID 2520 Name Deborah hart

Method Survey

Date

This document has been created using information from the Council's database of responses to the Draft Local Plan Consultation 2016. Some elements of the full response such as formatting and images may not appear accurately. Should you wish to review the original response, please contact the Planning Policy team: ldfconsult@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Survey Response:

1. Do you agree with the overall vision that the Draft Plan sets out for Epping Forest District?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 1:

I believe it is important to ensure an enhanced quality of life for the people of Epping Forest however I do not believe the Draft Local Plan provides the best way of doing this. It seems that the additional housing that has been proposed is not for the people already in the District but to attract numbers into the District. Attracting new people into the District does not tie in to the vision that the council has presented in the draft plan. It is also worrying that while the plan mentions extra housing it does not explain clearly the details of where the houses will go, when they plan to build them in these areas and how they will be funded along with the additional infrastructure needed to be put in place to support the existing and potentially larger population.

2. Do you agree with the overall vision that the Draft Plan sets out for Epping Forest District?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 2:

From reading the Draft Plan, in my opinion the housing has not been distributed among the county fairly. There seems to be a very large amount has been allocated to Epping, Theydon Bois & North Weald. It is vital the destruction of the green belt does not happen to provide for housing. One of the most important points as I mentioned before, the current infrastructure could not cope with the development of the amount of houses proposed. My family and I already experience difficulties getting appointments with doctors at the local Epping surgery and neighbours have spoken of not being able to enrol their child into the local school 5 minutes away (Ivy Chimneys) due to the school being over subscribed and having to resort to driving their child to school in a nearby town. My partner and I commute into work on the tube every day and at rush hour there are many times when we are lucky to have a seat on the central line, especially if there are any tubes cancelled! Would it not be possible for the District Council to submit a plan which does not propose quite so many new homes? It certainly seems that 11,400 homes mainly in greenbelt land does seem rather excessive. Are other councils

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proposing such high numbers? Would it also not be possible to redevelop estates that are less well built than Epping and the neighbouring villages?

3. Do you agree with the proposals for development around Harlow?

Disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 3:

As I mentioned before it is vital that greenbelt is not destroyed to make way for development of houses. There appears to be a lot more care in choosing the sites for development around Harlow than there has been around Epping.

4. Do you agree with the proposed shopping area in...

Epping?

No

Buckhurst Hill?

No

Loughton Broadway?

No opinion

Chipping Ongar?

No opinion

Loughton High Road?

No

Waltham Abbey?

Yes

Please explain your choice in Question 4:

I do not feel that the Draft Plan has been adequately set out the role within the town as it stands and also the proposed site is very large which is a little concerning.

5. Do you agree with the proposals for new employment development?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 5:

It seems rather hypocritical to state that EFDC wishes to protect existing employment sites when many have already been demolished to make way for housing. Also I would like to know the sites that are being earmarked for this.

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6. Do you agree with the proposed sites in your area?

Epping (Draft Policy P 1):

No

Please provide reasons for your view on Epping:

EDFC seems to have just chosen sites based on proposals from land owners and is not considering that they are valuable greenbelt areas. It is confusing viewing both the Draft Plan and the ARUP report as they do not seem to agree when showing the amount of dwellings per proposed site. There is no proper explanation anywhere to say what type of properties are to be built and what percentage are to be affordable housing for example. Therefore it is very hard to make an informed decision when the full details are not shared.

Loughton (Draft Policy P 2)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Loughton:

Waltham Abbey (Draft Policy P 3)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Waltham Abbey:

Chipping Ongar (Draft Policy P 4)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Chipping Ongar:

Buckhurst Hill (Draft Policy P 5)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Buckhurst Hill:

North Weald Bassett (Draft Policy P 6)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on North Weald Bassett:

Chigwell (Draft Policy P 7)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on North Weald Bassett:

Theydon Bois (Draft Policy P 8)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Theydon Bois:

Roydon (Draft Policy P 9)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Roydon:

Nazeing (Draft Policy P 10)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Nazeing:

Thornwood (Draft Policy P 11)

No opinion

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Please provide reasons for your view on Thornwood:

Coopersale, Fyfield, High Ongar, Lower Sheering, Moreton, Sewardstonbury, Sheering, Stapleford Abbots (Draft Policy P 12)

No opinion

Please provide reasons for your view on Coopersale, Fyfield, High Ongar, Lower Sheering, Moreton, Sewardstonbury, Sheering, Stapleford Abbots:

7. Do you agree with the approach to infrastructure provision being proposed in the plan?

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 7:

As far as I could see there was no real infrastructure delivery plan included in the Draft Plan. There were promises of infrastructure but no detail of what, where and how it will be funded. As I mentioned previously it is imperative that the infrastructure is strengthened to support the proposed expansion as it is struggling in its current state. It is almost impossible to book appointments in for the High Street surgery in Epping. After waiting two weeks for an appointment to see the nurse I sat in the waiting room at 8:45....Redacted.... The surgery opens for phone calls to book an appointment at 8:30, after non stop calls the last appointment for the day was booked at 8:55. The option for patients after this time was to "try again" the next morning or go to a different surgery. Not an option for many people. There needs to be more travel options, I find it incredible that it is believed that the central line can take additional travellers from Epping. On....Redacted.... I got on the tube at Epping and was fortunate to get a seat. When the train arrived into Debden (two stops after Epping) at 08:03 there were no already no available seats and passengers either had to wait for another train to try their luck for a seat or stand on their way into work. This will only get worse if there housing is increased in and around the Epping area. I already know that from living in a road that has no parking restrictions, 99% of the parking on the street is people travelling into Epping to take the tube into London.Redacted.... It is also extremely disappointing to find that there is proposed development for two sports fields and the Epping Sports Centre. If these are "removed" from Epping we will need to have equivalent sports facilities built to replace these.

8. An Interim Sustainability Appraisal has been commissioned to support the Draft Local Plan. We would welcome any comments you may have on this.

9. Do you wish to comment on any other policies in the Draft Local Plan?

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