

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

Stakeholder ID	4509	Name	carol davies
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Letter or Email Response:

Well D-Day is here. For me though, rather than a promise of a brighter future its rather a chilling portent, more like Dooms Day. I've dealt with EFDC 'public consultations' before, so forgive me if I'm not convinced that this is even a genuine consultation. A genuine consultation would set out with the express purpose to thoroughly and comprehensively explore the opinions of the 32,000 residents of Loughton, which in 6 weeks it is obviously never going to do. Neither, for that matter, is it thoroughly and comprehensively managing to gather the opinions of any of the other local Towns who are unfortunate enough to find themselves included in this charade. Here of course, I refer to Theydon Bois, Chigwell, Epping, Waltham Abbey etc etc You've no doubt heard of 'a day to bury bad news'? Well this, conveniently on the run up to Christmas is, 6 weeks to bury a Scandal that is this horrific draft of a Local Plan from EFDC. Before I give you my response I should mention first, that I generally support the very robust and thorough response prepared by Loughton Town Council. Loughton is lucky to have a Town Council that is both knowledgeable and thorough. This is reflected in their handling of this issue and against the odds and the previously mentioned ridiculous time frame for this consultation, they have pulled out the stops to try to inform and seek the views of local residents. If only EFDC had done just half as much! Also, I wish to point out I thoroughly agree with the response of my fellow Fairmead Ward representative,Redacted.... Certainly any consultation should pay a very great deal of attention to his encyclopaedic local knowledge and subsequently his extremely well informed opinion and response (which sadly, your whole Local Plan seems to be sorely lacking) 1 No Urban intensification of our Town Loughton is NOT London. A Garden village, set out of town is a much better alternative for Loughton. Our town is now much too crowded, making our roads impassable and services full to capacity and unable to cope with such an amount of constant overuse. This results in daily stress for Loughton residents who need to use any of our roads or access any of our services. A Garden Village, such as the one proposed to border Chigwell Lane and the road to Abridge, would make a lot of sense and would be ideally accessed by a 'Hopper bus' that connected the proposed new development with the tube stations and schools etc. 2 No building on Loughton's Public Urban Open Space Loughton has NO parks. The green spaces are our parks and are badly needed for recreation and the physical and mental health of large numbers of residents. My view is based on personal experience and I believe is supported by existing widely published data on the alarming rates of increasing childhood and adult obesity and the dire provision of mental health services in ESSEX and Epping Forest for adults and particularly children. In fact ECC are so concerned about the poor services provided for children and young people's mental health care, they recently set up a review of these services, which I took part in. 3 Where's the Infrastructure? Not enough Infrastructure delivery Of major concern (supported by local GP surgeries, see attached pho) is the fact that Epping Forest District Council does not control ANY aspect of Loughton's infrastructure or it's essential services. Our roads, schools, doctors, dentists and tube line are all full to capacity now. EFDC do not have any

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power to increase the capacity of Loughton's schools, or doctors now or in the future, to cope with the proposed new homes. This is attested to by the Loughton Surgery in Traps Hill and I fully support their comments. 4 Central Line has no more capacity - this service is very overcrowded and has been for years. There is no spare capacity on this service at times when people need to use it. This town has too many commuters and too many of those drive to Loughton and park, hence Loughton is already one big car park. (Given longer than this paltry 6 week consultation period, at this point I would've included a video of the towns roads starting to fill up from very early in the morning with long distance commuters who just come here to jump on the central line. But as previously mentioned, I don't regard this as a proper consultation) It is not possible to add more trains or more carriages. As well this would worsen travelling stress, put added strain on 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 that is situated out of reach, miles from local residents. Epping Forest District Council clearly values revenue from the land that it owns, far greater than the health and wellbeing of 32,000 Loughton residents. 6 Car Parks & flats on top More parking is welcome, there are too many commuters driving to Loughton. They clog and narrow our roads, add to pollution, destroy our pavements and verges and add to the costs of street cleaning. We also welcome some flats but no higher than 2 storeys. Flats any higher than 2 storeys are completely out of keeping and would destroy the open aspect of each site and overcrowd and damage the amenity of Loughton's residents. Residents fear, from past experience, that the Council and their developers will be too greedy and impose 3 or 4 storeys. This is totally unacceptable. 7 No High Buildings Ask any resident how much they value the basic amenity of the open aspect and green leafy character of this town. A major reason for Loughton's appeal is because 98% of all existing homes are no higher than 2 storeys. I and the vast majority of residents, want it to stay that way. 8 Loughton's Urban Open Spaces need future protection As our green spaces have been, are and will continue to be, so valued and appreciated by generations of local families and children, years ago our Town Council submitted Evidence for Village Green registration. This registration is clearly appropriate and essential. We, our children and future generations clearly want to enjoy and use Loughton's greens and our health and well being clearly depend on them. Why then have EFDC not granted this yet? 9 Photos of Drawings byRedacted.... Out of the mouths of babes - A Childs eye view of over crowding. Even a 5 year old knows squishing in blocks of flats and houses on our greens and open spaces "will make the people and children unhappy" Before and After pictures by theRedacted.... based at Trinity Methodist Church Loughton. The children each did two drawings - one a happy memory of Loughton, the other side is how they will feel if Loughton changes, if planning permission is granted on Jessel Green and our open spaces. 4 Photos of a poster campaign to Save Loughton's Greens, widely supported by the local community and businesses 7 Photos of people enjoying Loughton's greens

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