

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

Stakeholder ID 2141 Name john Newman

Method Survey

Date

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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:

Whilst the stated vision is admirable it is an unsafe generalisation and the methods outlined in the plan do not stand up to scrutiny when exploring the impact on each specific locality where characteristics vary significantly. Similarly, its aspirations are unrealistic since the healthcare, transport, educational and social infrastructure to support the envisaged new homes is not an integral part of the plan. There is a clear tension between the aims set out in the vision and the three aspects of new homes, jobs and infrastructure in many of the areas proposed including Epping where I live. Epping is already saturated with traffic and to attract more is not a responsible plan.

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:

This is a poorly phrased question. 1. whilst my perception is that there are vast tracts of Harlow and some industrial and brownfield sites in other urban localities within the District, others proposed for infill would reduce the quality of life for the residents by reducing the amenities, despoiling the locality, saturating the locality with traffic. To make any compromises involving Green Belt removal would exacerbate the despoiling visually, remove the amenity.

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

Disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 3:

Harlow is already a sprawling, relatively modern town with significant shopping facilities. there appears to be more retail and business sites than are currently used. The market at the Harvey Centre has long gone and the surrounding retail shops seem desolate. The utilisation of these sites for housing and sensitive development with appropriate health care infrastructure would be a sensible way of fulfilling some demand for homes arising from local people. it seems counter intuitive to steal Green Belt for housing whilst further hollowing out the centre of Harlow as it becomes more desolate The significant omission from the way this question is phrased is the lack of provision of appropriate health care. Princess Alexandra's hospital is currently on its knees.

...Redacted... It is evident that the hospital is imposing between 2 to 8 hour delays on admitting patients in the Emergency Department because it cannot process them through into the hospital. The impact on these patients, many of whom are very frail as well as being unwell or injured is obvious. the knock on impact on emergency care within the catchment area of the hospital is catastrophic. Ambulances wait outside the ED because they cannot be offloaded. It is quite usual for up to 8 Accident and Emergency ambulances to be waiting to offload outside the hospital. This results in delays in responding to emergencies throughout the region, patient's inappropriately suffering whilst waiting outside the hospital, crews engaged for hours in caring for these patients outside the hospital in the ambulances. whilst the service uses officers and paramedics in cars to attend to emergency patients in the community, many have to wait for hours for the emergency ambulances to transport them to hospital. Unless the health care provision is significantly developed, we should only be improving the provision of homes already resident in the District

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

Epping?

No

Buckhurst Hill?

No opinion

Loughton Broadway?

No opinion

Chipping Ongar?

No

Loughton High Road?

No opinion

Waltham Abbey?

No opinion

Please explain your choice in Question 4:

it is unfortunate that this questionnaire is phrased in such a way that whilst i agree with some of the aspects of each question but since they involve many facets, agreement with the whole question can statistically imply agreement with the whole and i have no option but to answer No. As a resident of Epping, my primary concern is to maintain the character of the town whilst protecting existing amenities. On the face of it, the St John's Road site would seem a reasonable target for retail but one questions why it cannot be used for housing when

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we have a predominance of charity shops, funeral directors and restaurants already in the High Street. The Monday market is gradually shrinking. what evidence do we have of demand additional retail outlets and how will the town cope with the additional traffic and parking which is already saturated

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

Strongly disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 5:

my response relates to the plan for Epping. There are clear contradictions here. The plan calls for the Epping laundry site to be used for housing whereas it is at present an unused commercial site. What evidence do we have that this site would become more attractive to a business and if there is none, its adoption within the plan as a residential site would seem a sensible practical solution along with the adoption of the site of the previous motor repair garage, pharmaceutical company and car cleaning site. A sensitive development there would provide a large number of homes without unsightly blighting the locality which is already very scruffy.

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:

1. Epping Town is contained within an area defined by the Green Belt which surrounds it. Encroaching upon the green belt would despoil its character 2. increasing the population of the town is unsustainable because a. my experience of the health and social care within the town indicates that it is almost at breaking point already. **Redacted**

Community First Responders **...Redacted...** for East of England Ambulance Service **...Redacted...** attend on average two emergency calls per day to patients with potential or actual life threatening sudden illness. A significant proportion of these are frail and elderly, many of whom have tried to engage their GP and been unable to get through to them or arrange a GP visit. The inability to engage full time GPs in both the two local GP surgeries is now critical. Access to social care and day to day personal care is also severely strained. a significant increase in the quantity and quality of health and social care is imperative for the present residents of Epping. no increases should be considered until this has been accomplished b) Traffic in the town is gridlocked at many times in the day, even at weekends. apart from the danger and inconvenience of this, access for **Redacted** emergency responders is very restricted at peak times. This is particularly critical for us as residents **...Redacted...** - the proposed site SR-0132Ci. At the current time, leaving and returning to our home during the periods between 0700 and 0900 and 1500 and 1900 is extremely difficult and during the intense school start and end periods, very dangerous with school children spilling across Bury Road and Lower Bury Lane and parents in cars clogging these tiny roads with individual cars. Turning into the High Street at these times takes considerable time and the thought of adding any homes, let alone 49 or more, each with at least one car per household is irresponsible c) the impact on the sports club of being removed from the site on which it has provided amenities for local children, adults and senior citizens for over one hundred years should result in this site being removed entirely from the plan. 1. It is an open space which enhances the area visually 2. its three clubs - cricket, tennis and bowls, provide exercise and recreation for all age ranges of local residents 3. it provides an open space, much used by local residents who are not members of the sports club to picnic, walk dogs and generally exercise. 4. its proximity to the local streets enables residents who are less able to have access without long distances to travel and for children to walk to it without using main roads 5. The clubs are part of a strong tradition in Epping and the site (including the cricket pavillion are part of the town's heritage

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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

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?

Disagree

Please explain your choice in Question 7:

inadequate. particularly from a health and social care and traffic perspective

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

I would like to be involved in this

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