

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

Stakeholder ID	3801	Name	H	Leslie
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Method	Letter
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Date	11/12/2016
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Letter or Email Response:

I am writing regarding the plans for development of Jessel Green. As aware as I am of the need for housing and the stimulation of our local economy, I felt strongly that I should add my protest to the many voices of Dedben speaking out against the housing project. My father grew up on **...Redacted...**, playing on the green as a child. My grandmother lived here until she died, moving to the retirement flats overlooking the green for the last 10 years. For a woman who was so restricted and could barely go out even with my parents' assistance, being able to look out of her window and see the green hill and trees added something to her quality of life which another brick building could not have done. I moved back to this street 5 years ago, from Church Langley, Harlow. I walk on Jessel Green nearly every day. As someone with a chronic illness and limited mobility, the green spaces in Dedben massively improve me emotionally and mentally. One of our very special moments has been discovering we can view fireworks on bonfire night and New Year's eve from the top of Jesse Green's hill. It has been many years since I (or we as a couple) have been able to engage in cultural days like this. As well as providing a beautiful place for me to exercise, rather than just waking street paths, Jessel Green also gives me somewhere accessible to go with friends and their dogs and my many nieces, nephews and godchildren who enjoy developing their skills in the excellent playground as well as racing about the green. Had the proposal development been intended to house those in real need of houses, social housing or housing for those with lower incomes, I would have hesitated in sending this letter- we must be aware of the necessity if addressing the housing crisis. However it is my understanding that, although there is a general commitment in all new developments to create a percentage as "affordable", there is no legal obligation to enforce this to this nor any recourse if it is not met. In any case, the fraction of relatively "affordable" houses in too small for this development nor to be socially minded. While I am aware that local economies can be boosted by these kind of housing developments (wording missing) knowledge of estates or economies, that the destruction of the leafy, green character of Loughton will in the long term depreciate the value of housing and land here as this character is traditionally what makes people so desire to live here rather than one of the alternative, cheaper suburbs. The temporary boost in demand from the "TOWIE effect", of people who wish to live here for the "TOWIE" lifestyle will pass with the trend which is already being sneered at, locally and nationally and when it does the demographic will return to families, commuters and retirees who value (wording missing)

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