

Dear Sir/madam

Having waded through the hundreds of pages of your plan I wish to make some comments. I have lived here for nearly 20 years and so feel able to take a balanced view.

Firstly you speak of maintaining the area, but adding 20-30k houses with presumably 50-100k residents across the borough will place enormous strain on infrastructure.

You claim to be wishing to protect the character of the area but do so by building thousands of houses on the green belt. I appreciate that your legalese definition of the green belt may be different to most people's judgement of it, but the fields around Hadley Way, The Ridgeway, Crews Hill and others would create enormous and isolated (other than by car/sporadic train) communities of (probably) identikit housing estates. I question whether these houses are even needed and also why they would be sited there. I understand that you wish to increase the provision of housing and accept that building new homes on already developed sites (such as the estates along the A10) makes sense. Surely if the East is underrepresented by green spaces building better access to them through cycle lanes and footpaths is better than concreting over the West to balance things out. Given the poor quality of modern buildings (The cladding scandal and the building between B and Q and Morrison's is a classic example) I doubt whether your plan will achieve its basic stated aim, and wonder whether there is actually a requirement for these developments, especially without a huge investment in infrastructure to support (Schools, Drs, dentists, car parking spaces) without which the area would become unliveable.

Equally I would question the need for "tall buildings" when the existing tall buildings on the Borough are certainly not considered desirable residences by most (I am thinking of the ones knocked down and replaced in Ponders End and the blocks in Edmonton Green.) The most "in demand" housing seems to be low rise blocks or terraces (like on Parsonage Lane) which priced appropriately which would attract the families the plan seems aimed at...

And all of this is without the huge disruption caused by building in such places, the lorries, roads etc needed to service such developments.

The fact that the plan has not particularly been well publicised and recent stories of corruption and bullying in the council published in the press make me extremely reluctant to support the plan, and doubtful as to whether the better aspects (rewilding, better East West links, better leisure facilities) will actually take place.

Regards

CC Kate Osamor as local MP

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