

I wish to complain about the poorly designed consultation process for the Draft Local Plan, in particular the online survey.

Whilst I appreciate that the Local Plan is a legal document and that it is necessary to include detailed technical information, acronyms etc, there has been little attempt to make it accessible to the general public. I will shortly be submitting an FOI to ascertain exactly how many online submissions were received before the deadline and if there is any record of incompletions.

1. FUTURE ENFIELD LEAFLET

The leaflet directs people to the Lets Talk platform where the survey is hosted but does not mention that you can also make a submission by email or by letter. Last week a number of people complained on social media that they had not received a copy of the leaflet. It wasn't a case of single households someone mislaying the leaflet, as whole streets reported on WhatsApp groups that they had been left out.

2. ONLINE SURVEY

Overall this survey is way too long and complex. It took me over five hours to submit, answering many of the questions superficially as I did not have the time or the expertise to be able to provide more incisive answers. This does not equate to a valuable engagement programme for residents and other stakeholders, who will be living and working in the borough, long after the current administration.

2.1 From the opening question the survey is off putting and may deter people from progressing. To quote:

"Are there key aspects of the Borough that the Council has not captured in the spatial portrait? A spatial portrait describes the geographical characteristics of the Borough, setting out where things are located in Enfield".

I suspect that the majority of respondents would not know how to answer this question. Firstly few would understand what is meant by 'spatial portrait'. How can they be expected to appreciate if anything is missing?

Ditto Questions 2 & 3 - "Residents can not be expected to answer this question without a detailed perusal of the Local Plan. If the question is deemed important, surely it would have been logical to have included it at the end of the survey?"

"Are there any key opportunities and challenges facing the Borough that the Council has not identified?"

"Are there any key spatial issues that have not been considered? Spatial issues are the specific economic, environmental and social issues affecting the Borough".

2,2 There is no link back to the sections of the Local Plan that the questions relate to. This is also true for every question in the survey. You are asking people to comment on specific sections of the report, so it would have been beneficial for people to refer back to the

relevant section to read before answering the question.

2.3 Question 4 refers to 'place shaping' - perhaps it would be beneficial to explain to people what this term means.

Have we included all appropriate placemaking areas in the urban area to accommodate growth?

Listing parts of the borough - the inference is that these are the only parts of the borough where development is proposed, but this isn't the case

Enfield Town

Southbury

Edmonton Green

Angel Edmonton

Meridian Water

Southgate

New Southgate

Rural Enfield – a leading destination in London's National Park City

Crews Hill

Chase Park

Conversely - Question 5 is meaningless.

"Are there any proposed placemaking areas we have proposed that you believe should not be included?"

2.4 Respondents are then asked to go through each of the 'place shaping' areas to give an opinion on whether the 'vision' is appropriate and whether the policy will deliver the aspirations. This question set is almost incomprehensible for the layman. For example Enfield Town:

"Does the vision for Enfield Town set out an appropriate vision for its future? If not, what components do you think should be changed or are missing?"

Will the proposed Enfield Town placemaking policy help to adequately deliver the aspirations set out in the vision? If not, what proposed changes, omissions or additions are required in the policy to help deliver the vision?"

Again why was no link created to this specific section of the report to allow people to refer to it?

2.5 Why should people be forced to answer the sections on parts of the borough they have little knowledge about/don't feel able to answer/have little interest in in order to continue the survey? There was no option to leave these questions blank.

As well as causing frustration for respondents this will invariably reduce the validity of the data.

3.0 Sustainable Enfield

Qu 28 Responding to the climate emergency "Are there any other measures that should be included in the Local Plan to help tackle the climate emergency?" Why only allow 255 characters for this question other than to limit the responses?

For questions 29 - 33 it is imperative that the Local Plan is clearly referenced, yet again yet again there are no links back to the relevant sections of the report. The option given is to

agree Yes or provide an answer that may have little validity given that most people may opt out of this question as it is too technical for the layman.

For example Question 33 *"Climate change adaption and managing heat risk
Does this policy set out a robust framework for managing heat risk?"*

There clearly should have been a 'Don't know' option.

4.0 Question 34 why reduce this to 255 characters? It is an insult to respondents to expect them to provide such a superficial answer to a core question.

"How best can the Enfield Local Plan provide for our future community needs to secure a sustained high quality of life and well-being having regard to future growth?"

Overall, residents should have been allowed to complete the sections that they wished to do so. At the beginning of the survey it might have been beneficial to have explained to people the length of the survey and given them an option of submitting responses to specific sections by email.

I am very concerned about the quality of any report arising from this survey, which is a discredit to the work that has been put into the Local Plan, regards of whether I agree with all of the policy objectives.

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