

From: Juliette Lithgow  
Subject: Housing development concerns  
Date: 10 February 2020 at 16:02:50 GMT  
To: "louise@poservices.co.uk" <louise@poservices.co.uk>

Dear Sir/Madam,

Here are the issues I have noticed in the inspector's Further MIQs, please hear our worries, that come not just from me but the whole town through numerous conversations with a variety of people, that I have collected and summarised.

Matter 21:

Obviously, we have to build more places where people can live, however we have to find the balance between, building more homes so we all can live in a comfortable place we can call home, or, from North to the South of England becoming a never ending mass of concrete, roads, and tar. - We Can't let that happen. One way to try and lessen the damage is building apartments - Places we can still love as a home, that's an achievable goal for a price affordability, which clogs up our country drastically less.

Matter 22 (Greenbelt) and 23 (site selection):

It's us who have been given the honour of looking after Baldock, and with that title also comes with the responsibility to look after everything in it. Including the nature that lives here, take the Corn bunting (on the red list) and Sky Lark for example, that I see on a daily basis when walking on the farmland on dog walks. They would have a pathetic chance of surviving if we were to bulldoze their home.

Also, in some ways, we would not benefit from this plan - Greenbelt has been preserved for a reason, it's part of the community. It holds water - preventing flooding, catches carbon, provides a countryside everyone can explore and cherish. Furthermore, most of green belt - about two-thirds - is in agricultural use. This cannot be considered of low environmental value when global population growth and climate change are putting increasing pressure on the land we farm, and when we grow less than two-thirds of our own food, now, more than ever, we need to avoid unnecessarily losing our countryside.

Instead, we should, look for more brown fields or derelict buildings to tackle the housing crisis in Britain - more than seven million pounds of taxpayers money has been spent securing and maintaining empty buildings in Hertfordshire alone, that's a lot of money, and space, we could have saved.

Matter 27 (water):

Ivel springs is almost always dried up due to the overpumping Anglia Water are doing here - how is it meant to support thousands of more families?

Many thanks for taking your time to read this.

Juliette Lithgow

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