

Response to planning Feb 2020 Matter 21

There is little point in re-iterating the points already made to previous editions.

The failure of the council to take into account the effect of pollution on the communities in the extended area in addition to those locally affected by the potential increase in pollution is a major factor that has not been taken into account. The effect of pollution was an area that the courts decided were fundamental in the Heathrow Expansion.

There are a number of new research projects which have been published recently which must be considered.

The first one documented that new developments were suffering because of a lack of comprehensive planning (schools, health facilities, shops, and travel facilities.) This issue had been raised by the local MP in an early release but has not been auctioned .

The second ,reported on "Look East" last week, studied the ability to disperse pollution across towns of England.

Luton was found to be the Worst while Milton Keynes was the best for all towns.

The study documented that the difference was traced to the large roundabouts and boulevards of Milton Keynes dispersed the pollution compared with the narrow streets of Luton.

The study also revealed that pollution was higher within the vehicles than on the pavement.

This study carried out by two universities performed the measurements over a few weeks and showed that gathering the information could be gathered quickly and easily,

The study acknowledge that Luton could not be demolished and rebuilt. but stated the any new planning should take the findings into account.

While this acknowledges the mistakes made in the past, it is the duty of today's planners to compensate for the errors of their predecessors and not to ignore the findings to the detriment of future generations.

The documentation that pollution levels are higher within vehicles puts into question the use of diffusion tubes and road side monitors to estimate traffic pollution.

Again, the use of diffusion tubes to measure traffic pollution is not appropriate and is a waste of public money.

The responsibility of the planning team must focus on the reduction of pollution by building houses where the work is to eliminate the need of any travel other than by foot / bicycle and they need to apply current knowledge to the challenge rather than ignore the facts.

Ian Bowie

