

From: Gill Poulter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 23 January 2023 10:56
To: Andrea Copsey <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Response to Waltham Forest Local Plan 'Shaping the Borough' Examination.

As a long term resident of Highams Park I would like to add my comments to those in the letter of the Highams Park Planning Group of 17th January, which I feel are well written and reflect the concerns of the member residents of the area.

My additional thoughts are these, and this if for the whole plan, not just as it affects where I actually live.

The Council are designating sites to build on and giving suggested heights, without consulting local residents (if they do they ignore the response) and I feel often without actually looking at the impact these builds will have.

For instance, in Chingford, for the Skyline they took the top of the cross on a church steeple. Suggesting an 8 storey build adjacent to a conservation area and cottages that date back to the 17thC. At Larkswood they want to build on land next to ancient woodland and are talking of demolishing and building on the local swimming pool and leisure area.

Across the Borough there is intense building of high rise flats, one in particular at Wood Street looks like a prison, that have no proper play areas, are small inside, and will never develop a local community feel. These are slums of the future that are being built, that will result in terrible social problems. Mental health issues are already high here. It can only get worse in these dense overbuilds.

No sites are designated for health facilities or future school builds. I know the argument is Local Authorities are not responsible for these, but if every brown site is set aside for housing, where will these facilities be built? Already the local schools cannot fit in the local catchment. Doctors can no longer fit in patients, so only do telephone appointments. This is creating massive overcrowding of an already busy urban area. Why do LBWF feel the need to go over and above Government recommended levels?

I thank you for reading this. We live in a multicultural inner-city environment, that is trying to hold on to its close community feel. This is being eroded and local facilities are disappearing. Please think of the people that have to live within this plan when examining it.

Gillian Poulter