

24. Martin Ball.txt

From: Martin Ball
Sent: 03 March 2016 08:36
To: Cllr Demirci Ali; LDF
Subject: Objection to your Local Plan's housing proposals

Dear Cllr Demirci,

I object to the Local Plan, which is inconsistent with its declared objective of providing decent and inclusive housing for people in Haringey. Instead, the demolition of social rent council and housing association homes clears the way for new private housing for sale at prices not affordable by most, along with the risk of higher private sector rents and excessive service charges.

The council's plan to increase house prices and rents would mean social cleansing for many local people. This policy you pursue alongside the demolition plans for Love Lane Estate and large parts of Northumberland Park. The replacement housing is clearly not intended for local people. House ownership requires deposit payments and adequate incomes, but 48% of local people surveyed have no savings or are in debt, with many having low and uncertain incomes.

The Council should drop the Local Plan, which is wrong for the area and its people. Instead you should work with residents to improve existing homes and invest in resources for local communities. We need more quality new council housing to meet the housing need in the borough. Yet, on high-profile developments such as that next to the Spurs stadium the council is incapable of getting even any so-called affordable flats. A serious failure of the council's regeneration policy.

You are entrusted with the responsibility to govern the local area fairly and support the community to have better lives. Having genuinely affordable housing is vital to this and a key aspect of the Local Plan discussion. However, throughout the consultation process you shamelessly avoided genuine engagement with the public. I will speak at any public examination of these dreadful proposals, and look forward to the opportunity to finally scrutinise you and others responsible.

Martin Ball

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