

From: alda terracciano [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 March 2016 00:00
To: LDF
Subject: Haringey Site Allocations Development Plan Document - local resident's comment

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing with regards to the Haringey development plan document and in particular to the proposed site allocation for the Haringey Professional Development Centre on Downhills Park Road N17. Indeed, it was rather disquieting to discover that the consultation process with regards to future uses of this space had closed in March 2015 without any adequate publicity being given to it with local residents in the area. It seems that the only opportunity we now have is to comment on the legality of the plan as consultation is now closed. This is utterly unacceptable considering that Haringey's policy document "Statement of Community Involvement" details more efficient ways of involving the local community in the democratic decision making process relating to the life of the community.

More specifically, local residents believe that the site where the Haringey Professional Development Centre currently resides should continue to serve educational purposes in consideration of the growing needs to schools in the area as a result of current and future increase in residential homes.

Indeed, while the number of primary schools in N17 and N15 is rather substantial, there are only 2 secondary schools in the area, a number clearly inadequate to serve its growing youth, forcing young people to travel to other areas of the borough which makes them feeling often uncomfortable and not well received.

Primary schools in the area include:

Brook House Primary School, Bruce Grove Primary School, Chestnuts Primary School, Crowland Primary School, Devonshire Hill Primary School, Earlsmead Primary School, Ferry Lane Primary School, Park View, Tottenham UTC

Secondary schools:

Harris Academy Tottenham, Northumberland Park Community School

In light of the above it seems crucial to retain the use of the identified Haringey Professional Development Centre for educational purposes and in particular its destination should be a secondary school. This is especially important considering the increasing number of future teenagers as a result of young families having moved to Turnpike Lane in recent years. Future transport connections will also facilitate recruitment of members of staff and facilitate the production and fruition of cultural activities in the area, which is currently lacking.

Indeed, the need for residual community infrastructure in the area is of great importance. While the local artist and professional community is growing in numbers, there are currently no facilities to capitalise on such presence and promote activities that would increase the economic development of an area where a substantial number of vulnerable disadvantaged young people live. The current car park area would be an ideal location for a community infrastructure that could play an important synergic role in linking up school provision with other socialising and professionally qualifying opportunities for the young.

In light of the above I would strongly recommend the council to review the use of the site in question, in line of the educational needs of its fast growing population.

I hope this comment will be given due consideration and I look forward to hearing from you about the progress of the consultation.

Kind regards
Alda

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