

Subject: FW: Comments on local plan

From: roslyn byfield

Sent: 23 February 2017 14:08

To: LDF

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Hello, I would like to make the following comments. Locally I think we have some consultation fatigue as we keep being asked our views about 3 related developments.

While I understand there is a need for housing the amounts proposed for Wood Green is unrealistic, in my view. The 7000 new homes you propose in addition to the Heartlands 1050 new homes you refer to is excessive, when the infrastructure stays the same so it will become extremely difficult to even get onto public transport, appointments at the GP and so on. Also the idea of tower blocks is horrific and would wreck anything aesthetic being planned alongside it. Please don't resort to tower blocks.

I want to commend and strongly support the intention for community spaces, eg halls which can be used at no or low cost. I am a therapist in private practice, with a strong interest in public mental health, sadly neglected by both NHS and local government (now responsible for it), in my view. I understand local authorities are very strained financially but they were given this responsibility under the 2013 Health and Social Care Act and many haven't even appointed a Mental Health Champion, which they were supposed to do. The cost of unaddressed mental health needs is very high but often goes under the radar. There are several initiatives eg the Jo Cox Commission, underway to tackle loneliness in society, and there are marked mental health components to loneliness which, with initiative and energy, we could tackle. But we need the communal spaces to do it in, so as to encourage out to connect with others rather than staying in their own bubbles. People used to use Wood Green library quite a bit but its recent configuration makes this space less hospitable.

I am happy to talk to someone/engage further on this if that would be helpful.

Best wishes

Roslyn