

Dear Mr Vickery

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the *Burnham Southminster Education Capacity* proposal and issues

While our group is fully supportive of the views expressed by Burnham Chamber of Commerce, Brood and Burnham Town Council in whole heartedly opposing any compulsory bussing of children to Southminster Primary - rather than honour their Burnham based parent's preferences of either of the two available Burnham Primaries, the purpose of this note is to underline the fundamental process errors that have led to this issue even being considered:

- Before MDC submitted the LDP to you for examination, they consulted on three iterations of the LDP; *however* each slightly different version stubbornly clung to the assumption that Southminster for example could not be a viable location for Strategic Growth in the Dengie because of infrastructure constraints (primarily apparent Anglian Water sewage capacity limitations)
- Between version 1 and version 3 of the LDP, Anglian Water successively and publically revised upwards their assessment of available sewage capacity, such that MDC in parallel with the LDP evolution approved a number of major new developments in Southminster, without ever modifying the LDP philosophy/base assumptions
- We now have the *Alice In Wonderland* perverse situation whereby Burnham with constrained infrastructure (Primary Education) is being asked by a potential developer of one of its LDP sites to bus any excess of pupils generated by construction over the Burnham 450 target to Southminster to use their available infrastructure

Our question therefore is that: *given that Southminster for example (and other major villages like Latchingdon and Althorne) now appear to have fewer infrastructure constraints than Burnham, wouldn't it be more sustainable to target any additional developments above and beyond the LDP three strategic growth areas and capped numbers to other villages and locations where pupils can live and study in the same area?*

Many thanks for taking our member's views into consideration in your final findings

Vicky

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