

[REDACTED]
Telephone: 01621 893895

11th September, 2013

1666

Maldon District Council,
Princes Road,
Maldon,
Essex.
CM9 8PN

Dear Sir,

LDP = LOCAL DESTRUCTION PLAN?

I find it very difficult to complete your Public Consultation Questionnaire on the subject of the Local Development Plan. The overall vision statement is an appealing form of words but is an impossible goal in practical terms because it contains aims which are mutually contradictory.

Like many people in the area, I chose to live here precisely because one of my main priorities for a top quality of life is a rural environment based on sparse population. Plans to bring many more thousands of people into the locality will seriously undermine this in ways which can never be mitigated by any other enticements.

Despite the deceptive euphemism of "garden suburbs" these proposals amount to housing estates and as such, any landscaping will be of benefit only to those who will live there. For the rest of us they will simply mean having to endure many more cars and increasing crowds at the watersides and other local beauty spots. This might be good for those whose interests are mainly in business but it represents the destruction of the very things which have made this area attractive as a place of residence. That is why your vision statement is impossible to achieve in practice and why I cannot support it.

Maldon town centre and promenade areas are now already frequently noisy and overcrowded. Formerly tranquil spots such as Heybridge Basin, Goldhanger, Beeleigh Locks, Hoe Mill, and Paper Mill Lock have also come under increasing pressure and are best avoided on fine weekends and public holidays. If your Development Plan becomes reality, I dread to think of the further consequences for these and other attractive spots which have made the area so desirable in the past.

I strongly believe that the proposed LDP represents a Local Destruction Plan and as such should be resisted by every means available to the Council.

Yours faithfully,


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