

Councillor Miriam Lewis  
 Maldon District Council  
 Council Offices  
 Princes Road  
 Maldon  
 Essex  
 CM9 4DL

10<sup>th</sup> October 2013



**Re: LDP for Heybridge/Maldon**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing with regards to the local development plan for Maldon/Heybridge. As a Heywood Way resident who currently benefits from a fantastic view, I would not be being honest if I didn't say that my initial feeling was of disappointment at the possibility of losing this.

However, as time has gone on, the plan has made me more aware of the surrounding larger area and there are more & more concerns about the sheer scale of the development.

Whilst I understand there is a lack of affordable housing in the area, the plan does seem excessive & raises various concerns:

- **Road Infrastructure** – Travelling to & from work every day to Chelmsford has made me wonder how the already busy roads in and around Maldon will cope with the distinct possibility of another 1800 cars. Peak times already prove extremely difficult through Hatfield Peveral, Maldon at Holloway road, The Causeway & Limebrook Way, Danbury on the A414 is also jammed both morning and evening. It is already often quicker to go through Witham, Wickham Bishops & Broad Street green to get into Heybridge and this is surely only going to get worse.
- **Schools** – Part of the development plan is to build a new Primary school & provide early years childcare, whilst this will obviously be of use to lots of families I am struggling to see any real thought that's gone into the expansion of Plume. It is already the biggest secondary school in Essex and is split into two buildings, how is it practical to have yet another site? Surely the school will just become more & more disjointed. Where would be another suitable site? Also referring back to the original point regarding roads, the traffic in the town is already at saturation point at pick up/collection times, what provisions would be made for additional parking?
- **Public Transport** – More information is required regarding the planned improvements to transport links in the area. Maldon & Heybridge does not currently have a transport system capable of coping with the additional people. The bus service is very limited and there is obviously no train station which makes commuting options very limited.
- **Jobs** – How much thought has gone into where the additional residents are going to work? New businesses are not being drawn to the area as the transport links are insufficient. Maldon & Heybridge are just going to become commuter towns on roads that are already at breaking point.
- **Doctors** – As residents of Heybridge & Maldon I am sure we have all regularly experienced the difficulties of booking a doctor/dentist appointment. Are the plans for the new health facilities going to be sufficient to cope with the massive growth in population?
- **Flooding** – What are the plans with regards to enhanced sewerage infrastructure? We recently experienced some very heavy persistent rain and all appeared to be surprised by the areas that flooded. Are the developers going to be forced to ensure that the correct investigation and procedures are followed to prevent this happening on the new developments?

In Conclusion, I think mine and my family's concerns are shared by many other families in this area and are not simply based on a selfish feeling of 'not in my backyard'. They are genuine worries that the plan is excessive and much more investigation needs to be done and more detailed information needs to be available to explain how Maldon/Heybridge will cope with this expansion. We are fortunate to live in very beautiful towns and we should take care to ensure any expansion is done sympathetically to keep it that way.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.