

Linda Harvey, The Labour Party Candidate

Norbrook, Eastwick, Nr. Harlow, Essex,

East Herts District Labour Party issued the following statement summarising the position of all Labour candidates:

Harlow North

This project has been hanging over the District for some time now and Labour support for the opposition to the plan has been stated on a number of occasions, most recently in the Hunsdon by-election.

It seems that some people are under the mistaken impression that the existing infrastructure will easily accommodate a new extension of this size. There are however no plans to widen the connecting bridge to Harlow- already a daily area of congestion and no plans as to how to deal with sewage or water needs. The area is also designated as a flood area. There is no gas supply to the villages. In this current climate it is hard to believe that any prospective builders will wish to fund improvements to the infrastructure themselves. The high unemployment figures in Harlow, whilst shouting for regeneration schemes, do not offer incentives to remain in or move to the area and of course recent cuts in benefits etc may even cause populations to move away. It is feared this plan may prove ill-conceived and may be already outdated.

Labour is not against considered developments that allow extra housing and answers some of the needs for the District. There are still a number of brown area sites that can be utilised but even these have to be identified with sensible forward planning re schooling etc. As elected councillors we would hopefully be able to scrutinise such plans.