

William Compton, Independent

Esta, Hadham Cross, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire

I actively oppose the development of Harlow North, and in 2009 and 2010 have distributed leaflets in Much Hadham, which urged residents to oppose the development, and to support the Stop Harlow North Campaign.

I firmly believe that any housing development should be based on actual local need, identified by local residents. The Government's Localism Bill proposes that the Planning system be radically reformed to, 'give local people new rights to shape the development of the communities in which they live.'

The Harlow North proposal is simply unsustainable and untenable. The proposed site is on a flood plain, there is no infrastructure - and the existing infrastructure of Harlow certainly could not support it - essential services such as water and sewerage will be completely inadequate, and health, education and care services would simply not be able to cope. The independent Inspectors at the Examination in public rejected the proposal when all the evidence was presented.

Traffic congestion around Eastwick and Gilston is already a heavy burden, and High Wych struggles to cope with the volume of through-traffic to and from Harlow. Traffic generated from Harlow North would devastate these roads, and have a hugely detrimental impact on neighbouring villages.

The proposals and plans for Harlow North, and the destruction of our treasured and important green belt land, simply reflect the developers' drive for profit and self-interest. The overwhelming response from the residents of East Herts has been that of objection to Harlow North. As a Parish Councillor for Much Hadham I actively oppose the development and support the Stop Harlow North campaign. If elected to District Council for Much Hadham and High Wych ward, I will continue to actively oppose it.