

Objection to proposed loss of Green Belt in Byfleet and West Byfleet

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To: Planning Policy

Hello,

i am writing to object in the strongest terms to the proposed use of Green Belt land in Byfleet and the nearby West Hall area for the purpose of new housing, and building of a new school.

I have lived all over the Borough of Woking since the 1980's, but **without exception**, the worst traffic gridlock occurs along the A245 Parvis Road/Byfleet Road between W. Byfleet and Cobham. To consider building 750 homes and a school for 900 pupils in the close vicinity of the Parvis Road is planning insanity.

At the recent Green Belt consultation at the St Marys Day Centre, Byfleet on the 16th of July 2015, Ernest Amoako, Planning Policy Manager stated that traffic management measures on the Parvis Road would be a viable way to manage increased traffic from any new building development. The reaction of the meeting attendees was spontaneous laughter at his statement! Everyone who drives a vehicle in this area, knows that traffic levels are already unsustainable, without more building.

Ernest repeatedly referred to this area as an Urban environment, as if that were a valid reason for building over remaining green belt land. Surely, if our current environment is truly urban, then any precious bit of Green Belt land left remaining should be afforded the very highest protection.

The Brett Study only considered Green Belt land for new development. Why wasn't the Brett Study tasked to fully consider Brown Field sites in its remit? No building on Green Belt land should even be considered until a study of all Brown Field Site sites has been undertaken.

The tone of the meeting felt to me like the loss of Green Belt land to unwanted development - according to the survey undertaken by Cllr John Bond of Byfleet residents - was a 'done deal' ,i.e. not a really a consultation, but a statement of what Green Belt land was going to built on, regardless of the wishes or major concerns of Byfleet residents.

To close, I just wish to state that Woking Borough Council should be more accountable to the wishes of it's residents, and withstand the pressure from the Government to release Green Belt land, and truly destroy what precious little quality of life remains in Woking and the surrounding areas in the process.

yours sincerely

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