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Sent: 22 November 2022 22:31
To: section62a@planninginspectorate.gov
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Ref.: S62A/2022/0012 Land East old Station, Elsenham

To the Planning Inspectorate, UK government,

I am really FED UP of having to complain against one proposed housing development after another for a long time now (I think it has been going on since 2006!!!).

The irony is that it took me 3 years!!! to get planning permission to have an extension of my house, in a country lane in Henham, right next to this new proposal. The arguments against it: It would affect the rural character of the lane 😞😞. However, now, 200 houses, plus 200 more houses and on and on, 1000 houses, in the same environment, does not seem to cause any concern (more 😞😞).

At the beginning, it was Uttlesford Council, the local authority, responsible for the decisions on planning permissions, but they seemed too hard to authorise housing in excess in an area that did not logistically allowed such expansions, and therefore, the central government decided to take over. Unbelievable!!

May I ask if the central government is aware of the infrastructure of the area? Have you spoken with County Essex? - Obviously not!!

Many years ago, when the big "new housing 'need'" was born and the local residents expressed our concerns about indiscriminate developments rather than follow a natural evolution and integration of new constructions within the existing communities, Uttlesford District Council produced some figures where it showed that the demand for housing in the District was the same as the number of properties that became vacant.

The conclusion was that there was no need of new housing developments!

Work opportunities have not increased in the area, as most of the jobs are in either London (number 1) and Cambridge (number 2). So, people living in this area has to commute to go to work!!!

Coming back to my point above, at the time, **County Essex did an exhaustive study on the infrastructure of the area** and came to the **conclusion that it could not cope with the demand that any big developments would require.**

- nothing is sourced locally
- public transport is not enough
- you need your own transport for all kind of shopping (e.g., food, main essential)
- water pressure keeps decreasing all the time
- electricity supply flicks too often and goes down with some regularity
- local roads are saturated, so many cars parked on streets that make traffic so difficult most of the time
- county lanes also saturated and in a horrible state many do them (loads of potholes everywhere!!)
- I have twice damaged my car wheels because of them
- critical access to main roads has been closed for years!!!, making driving in alternative routes dangerous at some points
- Highway seems to ignore the current needs; never mind with more traffic!
- schooling and GP practices and local dentists (health care in general) are saturated.

The list could go forever.

We, local residents for many years, chose this area because we liked the countryside, the peace, the rural environment. We do not want to be in the middle of artificial towns where you lose all that!

That makes you lose your identity.

We **do like to have agricultural land** and to see open fields around. A country NOW, and more than at any other past time, NEEDS to provide for ourselves, and try and avoid such full dependence from others - see the current situation in the World.

UK is a big country where growth should be offered to disadvantaged regions, from which local people has to migrate to others in search of new opportunities missing close to home.

It is wrong to concentrate all richness and opportunities in the South East, while vast areas lose population. Invest there and leave the South East alone!!

Most people like to remain at their roots, with families and friends, but they are forced to move away due to lack of opportunities - and in the process, the countryside dies and becomes deserted.

Please wake up and do not succumb to the greed of big construction firms only interested of making big money by charging a mint in the South East, where there is more work and money, when they would only make a fraction of it in most of the rest of the country.

Create jobs all over UK and distribute the demography in a wiser way, and try and make the country self sufficient - it is critical these days. It not good to live only from services and office jobs, but diversify while you can.

Conclusion: We do **not want more housing states** all the time. **Uttlesford is saturated** and has **no infrastructure** to even support actual demands!!

Many thanks,
María C. Salvador

