

Our ref:

Date:

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Dear Steven Wilkinson,

**Comments on The Lee Valley Regional Park Strategic Planning Evidence and Policies – Park Plan Part 1 Strategic Policies February 2018, Area 6 River Lee Country Park Draft Amended Proposals and Area 7 Wetland Park – Spitalbrook to Roydon Draft Amended Proposals**

I am writing on behalf of Epping Forest District Council to respond to your consultation.

The Council welcomes many of the policies and proposals contained within the draft amended Park Development Framework and notes the amendments made in respect of concerns raised in February 2015 to an earlier draft of the Area Proposals. Please see attached the background report and formal Portfolio Holder decision which sets out the Council's formal response to the consultations above.

The response can be summarised as follows:

- a) to support the overall approach of the proposals in the context of the statutory functions of the Park Authority i.e. in relation to (i) sport and recreation, (ii) leisure, (iii) education, and (iv) landscape, heritage and nature conservation.
- b) To express concern regarding the possible extent of new building in the Green Belt but to recognise the Local Planning Authority's role in managing such development and responding to applications within the national policy context.
- c) To express concern regarding the proposed approach to glasshouse development in the Park but to recognise the Local Authority's role in managing such development and responding to applications within the national and local policy context together with the Councils' aim to support the vitality and expansion of protected horticulture in the District.
- d) To express concern regarding the desire to ultimately remove valuable industrial and commercial uses from the Park, and the Councils' aim to protect employment uses in the District.

I trust that you will give these comments due consideration in the final drafting of the Park Development Framework.

Yours sincerely

Councillor John Philip  
Portfolio Holder Planning and Governance  
Epping Forest District Council

c.c. Planning Policy Team