

been additional confusion over the exact status and role of the 2 other documents (DMPs and Site Allocations) and the 'parallel' consultation over them.

6. It has been said that the public are not alone in being confused over the new LDF planning processes (in comparison to the old UDP), as local governments, planners and local officers have also struggled to get on top of what has been expected of them!

7. We have done our level best to encourage, promote and support the maximum amount of participation in this consultation effort. However, I would guess that the vast majority of community groups, and 99.99% of the public at large are either totally unaware of this vital exercise impacting on Haringey's future, or completely flummoxed as to what it signifies and how to respond in any meaningful way.

8. In the light of the above, we hope that any responses from the community which have managed to have been made, in whatever form they have managed to have been made, will be valued and appreciated as just the tip of a very large iceberg of concern over planning issues. We believe this iceberg of concern exists, not just through our own contacts, but through the large amount of planning objections and responses regularly made over planning applications (in writing, on the Council's webpages and at Planning Committee meetings).

### SOME KEY LOCAL PLANNING CONCERNS AND ISSUES

9. Haringey Council agrees that 'sustainable communities' should be at the heart of all planning policies and good planning practice. However, throughout Haringey over the last 10 years there are an ever-growing number of objections and campaigns over proposed local developments which are being promoted and accepted often at the expense of local communities. Residents groups and associations are speaking out, and forming more and more alliances to object to and resist what's 'wrong' with major developments as well as ones in smaller but equally important sites in local neighbourhoods .

These include local community efforts to...

- a. protect heritage and conservation features & the distinctive character of neighbourhoods
- b. resist unwanted over-development imposed on communities
- c. oppose over-intense housing development - *densities have risen massively in the last few years, and there is a systemic failure by Councils and the GLA to enforce maximum density limits*
- d. support genuinely affordable housing - the vast majority of housing development is unaffordable to local people in need. *A scandalously low 19% of new homes completed in 2006 in London were social housing (the only genuinely 'affordable' housing), despite housing need being used as 'justification' for otherwise unacceptable policies* [See below for more comments regarding housing issues]
- e. protect valued 'backlands' sites
- f. defend open green space from development, especially undesignated sites
- g. address the widespread deficiencies of green open space of all kinds
- h. defend and expand children's play facilities in our neighbourhoods
- i. oppose poor project design
- j. defend community facilities *eg. healthcare sites, local shops, post offices, meeting places, community pubs. Publicly-owned land is continuing to be widely sold off for private development.*
- k. campaign against the sell off of ever more publicly-owned land
- l. halt the loss of affordable offices & sites for voluntary groups & small businesses
- m. protect front gardens - *concerns include the quality of street scene, pedestrian safety, flooding etc*
- n. resist environmentally unsustainable development *eg energy use, materials, design etc. A comprehensive low/zero-carbon energy programme (insulation, alternative energy generation, 100% recycling etc) is needed for every home, building and workplace throughout London*
- o. criticise increasing pollution - *visual, air and noise*
- p. campaign against the ever more illegal advertising hoardings and billboards
- q. remove street clutter
- r. implement effective traffic calming, 'living' streets & affordable public transport
- s. call for greater (not less) resources for maintenance and improvement of public facilities, buildings & services

All the evidence points to the fact that current social and environmental infrastructure is inadequate to deal with the needs of current population levels, let alone increasing/denser population levels. Unfortunately many existing local