

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 August 2020 11:19
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Response to Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2020 10:12
To: LDP <ldp@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Response to Proposed Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2020

Dear Sir/Madame

I am writing in response to the proposed development of site OP1 in Echt.

While we appreciate the need for suitable housing to be built we do not believe that site OP1 in Echt is suitable for proposed development due to the following reasons:

Infrastructure

- The area is not connected to mains gas causing a reliance of domestic fuel oil.
- There is one bus servicing the village which passes through early in the morning and late evening. Therefore traffic will be increased.
- Parking in the area is already at capacity with a large number of cars already parked blocking pavements and forcing children into the local roads.
- We understand that Scottish Water has indicated the water treatment works will be unable to support the size of development proposed. Resulting in further construction being required.
- The primary school is already about to see an increase in children from the first development and would need further expansion and recruitment to meet the needs of this phase 3.
- Echt has a limited number of footpaths away from roads used by heavy vehicle traffic. OP1 will result in the loss of a popular footpath along the back of the current development (used for family walks and running) that does not have a substitute.

Environmental impact

- The further development will result in the loss of local fields and plant growth along footpaths that will cause loss of habitat for a number of species.
- Construction will cause disturbance to wildlife.
- Construction will generate noise and dust close to people's homes.

Safety

- The site will be accessed by construction vehicles through the roads of the current development. This area is used by a large number of primary school aged children for play and puts them at risk.

-Echt already see's a large number of heavy farm and construction vehicles passing through at high speed due to local farms and plant hire businesses. The development will further increase this on a road children and families regularly cross to access a park and the primary school.

Economic

-The ongoing downsizing of the oil and gas industry and the maturation of the North Sea basin has seen had a significant decrease in price and value of homes in Aberdeenshire that will likely continue as more companies exit the area. The area around OP1 has already seen a significant number of houses take a long time to sell (both large and small) and sales have occurred at a loss to the homeowners. Further construction in this area will result in increased over supply of homes in the area causing financial problems for families.

We appreciate your consideration of these points.

Kind regards

Tom & Lynn Hand

