

FULL NAME	DUTY TO COOPERATE	LEGALLY COMPLIANT	SOUND	WHICH PART	WHICH PARAGRAPHS	WHICH POLICY	WHICH POLICY MAP	WHICH DIAGRAM	WHICH TABLE
Mr Nick Samuels	Yes	Yes	No	Policy		Housing allocation			

WHY PLAN NOT SOUND	MODIFICATIONS	HEARINGS	HEARING SESSIONS
<p>Please see attached PDF - Charnwood-local-plan-comments.pdf</p>	<p>Consider alternative sites towards the east or north of Loughborough where pressure on local infrastructure, services and green corridors are considerably less.</p> <p>Consider alternative sites in rural areas e.g. along the B676 corridor</p> <p>If HA16 cannot be avoided, consider significant changes to access e.g. via Spindle road with meaningful cycling provision to be added both in the immediate locality and across the wider borough to entice new residents out of their cars.</p> <p>Consider upgrading and maintaining more footways especially connecting to recreational space to the south and west of the proposed site, making them fit for purpose 12 months of the year</p> <p>Retain the current high footfall recreational footpath and wildlife corridor between the end of Laburnum way towards Mucklin Wood / Beaumanor lane by ensuring access is via Spindle road.</p> <p>Provide extra services i.e. primary schools and doctors surgeries to account for the 899 new homes built in recent years prior to the commencement of any new residential dwellings.</p>	<p>No</p>	

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to articulate comments regarding the soundness of the Local Plan. Comments are in specific relation to proposed housing allocation sites HA16 and, to a slightly lesser extent, HA15

1. Significant increase in private car use & local traffic.
  - The proposed developments consist of 1145 new homes in addition to 899 built in recent years in the Loughborough South area (Grange Park & The Chimes)
  - Such an significant increase, coupled with the poor cycling infrastructure (see next point), will put immense pressure on local roads already heavily impacted by the Aldi complex
  - Access to HA16 is proposed along Laburnum Way and Newstead Way each of which have many existing dwellings immediately adjacent to these narrow & quiet residential streets.
  - Children and other vulnerable road users would be put at increased risk whilst using these roads and the adjacent play area at the end of Laburnum Way
  - Air quality and noise pollution will negatively impact the existing communities well being.
  - Nearby Spindle Drive would be a better alternative access route given it's increased width and markedly less number of existing dwellings immediately adjacent. This could also reduce the amount of traffic that would otherwise use Highland drive as the main access road, instead using Fairmeadows way as the entrance to the estate.
2. Lack of meaningful cycling & walking provision.
  - The Draft Plan's development strategy puts large emphasis on improving cycling and walking provision, however there is nothing tangible to substantiate this
  - As a keen cyclist, current provision within the borough is extremely poor with no dedicated cycle highways
  - Furthermore many of the painted cycle ways are poorly designed, increase contention with road users and increase danger for the more vulnerable.
  - Solutions could be to; pedestrianize residential areas, removing curbs and creating ubiquitous shared space, create segregated cycle highways across the borough and introduce low traffic neighbourhoods throughout our residential areas promoting families to use the space for recreation, health and general wellbeing.
  - Walking provision is similar. In the local area of HA16/15 there are very few maintained footpaths. Many are narrow, overgrown and unusable most months of the year due to rainwater.
  - If the strategy is truly to promote health by active transport there needs to be much more forethought on how to improve such infrastructure instead of solely focussing on roads/car use.
3. Local school provision and health impact on our young people.
  - Most of the current Loughborough South development of Grange Park has only one primary school, Outwoods Edge, which is in an acceptable walking distance for school children of that age group
  - This school is already well over subscribed with many of the local residents being prescribed school places that gives no option than to drive
  - Some have even recently been sent to Sutton Bonnington (8 miles away!)
  - Failure to allow our next generation the choice of active travel is a travesty and will only lead to further increases in childhood obesity and poor future health.

4. Removal of green space and wildlife corridors
  - The green corridor that runs around the back of Laburnum Way and Newstead Way is a lifeline for many people in the local area to exercise, walk their dogs and be active with their children.
  - This walking/cycling route would no longer exist if the HA16 development access use Newstead and Laburnum Way
  - The wildlife corridor itself, a continuation of the antient Mucklin woodland, would be significantly impacted and risk the loss of key wildlife species e.g. Muntjac Deer, Owls and Woodpeckers that currently thrive in this localised area
5. Loss of iconic Outwoods views
  - The view to the West of Laburnum Way is one of the most iconic in the area overlooking the beautiful Outwoods and Beacon Hill.
  - It's loss would be irreversible and a major disservice to future generations
6. Key service provision
  - The current residential development already has very limited access to key services such as Doctors surgeries.
  - There are huge waiting lists at those nearby and many people have to travel much further than is acceptable (and yes, mostly by car), to reach services
  - Given the large expansion of Loughborough South already during the past 10-15 years without any significant increase in services (no extra doctors, dentists or schools have been built in the area), this should be done first to relieve pressure before considering further expansion.