

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4ER
Telephone (01799) 510510, Fax (01799) 510550
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Email uconnect@uttlesford.gov.uk Website www.uttlesford.gov.uk

Chief Executive: Dawn French

Enfield Council

Attention c/o Helen Murch

Date 1 February 2021

Our ref:

Please ask for Stephen Miles on 01799 510346
email: smiles@uttlesford.gov.uk

Enfield's Local Plan – DTC Uttlesford

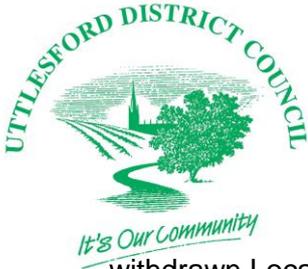
Dear Mr Lacovara

Thank you for your letter of 7 January seeking assistance from Uttlesford District Council (UDC) in helping to accommodate Enfield Council's employment and housing requirements. In response to your request I set out:

- An update on the progress of the UDC Local Plan; and
- Comments on the request to accommodate some of Enfield Council's employment and housing requirements.

The draft UDC Local Plan is at a formative stage, and is now in the middle of the first consultation. This first consultation is structured around nine different themes with each theme kicked off with a meeting of an independent Community Stakeholder Forum. Each theme is asking a number of questions that are designed to encourage input from residents and other stakeholders before any decision on the new Local Plan have been made. This consultation is due to run until 21 April, and no decisions will be made on the strategy, policies and sites in the Local Plan until the representations received in this consultation have been considered.

In an officer meeting in July 2020 it was explained that UDC was likely to be asked to assist Enfield Council to meet their employment requirements, no mention was made of helping to meet the housing requirements as well. In the discussion at this meeting it was explained that Uttlesford was identified as potentially having capacity to help with meeting employment needs, in particular the strategic employment allocation north of Stansted Airport in the



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withdrawn Local Plan. Uttlesford asked for further evidence to support the justification of meeting Enfield's requirement in Uttlesford. Uttlesford's administrative area is not closely related to Enfield administrative area, either in economic or housing terms.

Given the UDC draft Local Plan is at an early stage and no decisions will be made on the strategy and sites within it until the after the end of the first consultation (21 April 2021), UDC is unable to agree to assisting with meeting Enfield's employment (or housing) needs. UDC will give it due consideration at the appropriate stage when formulating the plan after the close of the first consultation. However, as mentioned in the meeting in July 2020, UDC maintains that it has concerns about the appropriateness of assisting with meeting Enfield's employment (or housing) needs. These concerns relate to the lack of evidence around whether businesses who want to locate in Enfield would realistically chose Uttlesford, and how they would sustainably operate in terms of employee and business travel patterns.

Yours Sincerely

Stephen Miles

Stephen Miles
Local Plan & New Communities Manager