TAY WOODCOOK.

Statement to UDC Scrutiny Committee on 15th Jan. 2019

Mr. Chairman and Committee members.

I'm Ray Woodcock a resident of Stansted Mountfitchet, I'm also a member of Stop Stansted Expansion.

Two members of this committee have asked to review issues arising from the major Planning Application UTT/18/0460/FUL, I attended all public speaking and the determination meeting.

The following issues, I believe, justify the need to carefully examine the procedures used, to help improve future major planning applications.

I was made aware that a number of residents applied, in good time, to speak during planning application UTT/18/0460/FUL, at least 3 were denied the opportunity, they were told that all speaking time had been allocated.

Two told me that UDC said that their requested day to speak was full. One attended the second session on spec, when she asked to speak, she was allowed. Another told me that his request to speak on a particular day was denied, he had commitments on the other days, he was unable to have his say. The third person attended the third session on spec and asked to speak, his request was granted as there was clearly much time available.

All three public speaking sessions ended early even allowing for the "No Show".

Mr. Chairman and Committee, the question, how many other applicants were told that all speaking slots had been filled? THIS MUST BE ADDRESSED.

It must have been clear a few days before these meetings that speaking slots were available, why were those who were informed by phone and/or email that all slots had been filled, were not contacted inviting them to speak on their requested day?

One other matter of fact, the issue of air quality or better described as air pollution was not properly considered even when a number of speakers raised this issue and referred to UDC's own air quality reports. As you known, a case is currently progressing through the High Court concerning the premature death of a child due to air pollution.

I believe these issues justify the need to investigate the way major planning applications are handled by UDC.

Thank you. Ray Woodcock