

Submission from Pascale Muir to the Local Plan Leadership Group (4th October 2023)

I felt compelled to come to tonight's meeting to express my dismay and disappointment with the draft Local Plan, from the perspective of the southern end of the district. As we all well know Uttlesford has been subjected to a developers' free-for-all in the absence of a plan. They have taken full advantage, predominantly in the southern area around Takeley and Great Dunmow and still have many hundreds in the pipeline.

We residents of Uttlesford have all eagerly awaited the arrival of a substantive plan, expecting fair and reasonable growth control to be restored into local hands. However this draft plan promises to persist in allocating a disproportionate burden of new homes to those areas which have already had to absorb so much, and all to the detriment of our life choices, our natural environment, our wildlife, our infrastructure and our daily lives. In truth the outlook for the southern area looks as damaging and gloomy as it has been with no plan at all. The disparity of the allocation of sites is shouting loud and clear in angry red on the map on page 31 of your public document pack.

It's fair to say none of us wants all this housing in our own locality and yes, we all desperately want a robust Local Plan in place but it needs to be more equitable and some might see this draft as the pursuit of the perceived path of least resistance, if only to get one in place.

Pascale Muir
Resident of Great Dunmow