

EAST LEAKE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr C Oatey

Our Ref: NL/SL



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PRESS RELEASE

Beleaguered Village Criticizes Planning Reforms

East Leake is a village in the very south of Nottinghamshire which is under siege by housing developers and their Parish Councillors have let the Government know exactly what they think of the planning system and proposed reforms to it.

They do not believe that the changes drafted will do anything to stop their village growing explosively and in an unplanned and uncontrolled manner, or provide the necessary infrastructure to support the new residents.

They are not arguing that houses are not needed, nor trying to prevent all development in their village. The points they are making relate to their particular set of circumstances, but they are not unique – other communities across the country, situated just outside green belt, and where the planning authority does not have a 5 year housing land supply, are experiencing the same problem.



The villagers believe that the planning process, at both strategic and local level, takes far too long and they don't think that the revised framework will help, indeed they think that it will make the whole process ever more cumbersome.

They point out that the Rushcliffe Borough Council does not have the required five year housing land supply, and that East Leake is one of just a very few areas outside the green belt being targeted by developers, placing unacceptable strain on local infrastructure and destroying their village. They say "development here is developer-led, not plan-led, and this needs to change".

East Leake is saying to the Government, "Please don't keep telling us that you want communities to have a say in their own planning decisions. Despite having expended huge effort on producing a Neighbourhood Plan, this is not our experience and we see nothing in the proposed changes that will help us and other communities in our situation."

Notes to Editors

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More information on the government's consultation on the revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework is at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-revised-national-planning-policy-framework>

East Leake Parish Council's full response is available here:

<http://east-leake.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/NPPF-Consultulation-May-2018.pdf>

Other images available on request