

45 Wynn Close  
Baldock  
Herts  
SG7 6QS

15<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Strategic Planning and Projects Group,  
North Hertfordshire District Council  
P.O. Box 480, M33 0DE

Dear Sirs

The sites selected for development range from areas of outstanding natural beauty to prime farmland, pretty villages and Green Belt.

We understand the need for more housing, but over 3290 new homes in Baldock is far too excessive and is a major threat to Baldock for the following reasons:-

A development of over 3000 houses amounts to at least 7000 residents wanting schools, hospitals, doctors etc. plus at least another 3000 vehicles on the road. The infrastructure is not capable of supporting such an excessive increase. For instance, the road system around Baldock would not cope (the town gets gridlocked now, even though there is a bypass.)

This area is noted for being the driest in the UK (even drier than some parts of Spain and the Canary Islands). There was an article on page 6 of the Herts County Council Horizon Magazine (Summer 2013 issue) which confirms this point and adding that North Herts residents are one of the biggest users of water. On pointing this article out to one of your representatives at the Knights Templar School exhibition of the proposed development plans also in 2013, he said that Veolia had told him that according to their research, there would be no shortages of water for the next 15 years! Our question is, how on earth do they know that? Our climate for the last decade at least, has been one of extremes. No one can predict what will happen in the distant future.

Baldock is a very pretty Georgian market town with a close community, and because of the nature of the layout of the town, would not cater for such expansion. The main fourway junction at North Road/Clothall Road cannot be altered due to the many listed and historical buildings which line the streets.

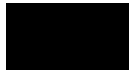
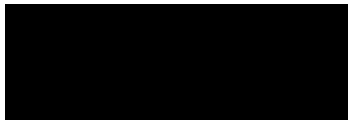
Baldock Railway Station, being on the main commuter route into central London, is a very busy station, that used to have a large car park, but now some of that car parking has disappeared due to the new flats which have been built, so where are all these proposed new residents supposed to park their vehicles? Now there is a threat that

Great Northern Rail is proposing drastic changes to Baldock services with Baldock set to be missed off quick services into London.

The proposed development for the north of Baldock is flawed for so many reasons and we most strongly object to this excessive building project.

We, like many others, moved to this town because of its charm, character and community atmosphere. Not only will your proposed development ruin these aspects, it will devalue our properties as well.

Yours faithfully

 R B Rota