



**BRENTWOOD
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Brentwood Draft Local Plan Preferred Site Allocations

January 2018

COMMENT FORM

From 29 January to 12 March 2018 we are consulting on the next stage of the Brentwood Local Plan: Preferred Site Allocations. You can view and comment on the consultation document online at www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan

Alternatively, please use this form to share your views on the contents of the document.

All responses should be received by Monday 12 March 2018

Please return forms to Planning Policy Team, Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY, or alternatively attach completed forms and email them to planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk

Data Protection

All personal information that you provide will be used solely for the purpose of the Local Plan consultation. Please note whilst all addresses will be treated as confidential, comments will not be confidential. Each comment and the name of the person who made the comment will be featured on the Council's website.

By submitting this form, you are agreeing to these conditions.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title:	Mr	First Name:	Dave	Last Name:	Bigden
Address:	Thames Chase Trust The Forest Centre Broadfields Pike Lane Upminster				
Post Code:	RM14 3NS	Telephone Number:	[REDACTED]		
Email Address:	[REDACTED]				

YOUR COMMENTS

Please indicate which section(s) of the Preferred Site Allocations document that you are commenting on (where applicable please clearly state the section/heading or paragraph number):

General comments and observations in relation to the entire document.

Please specify if you Support, Object or are providing a General Comment:
(tick as appropriate)

Support

Object

General Comment

Comments (please use additional sheet if required):

Brentwood Borough Council Draft Local Plan Consultation

Response submitted on behalf of the Thames Chase Trust (Thames Chase Community Forest)

1. Brentwood Borough Council is an active partner in the Thames Chase Community Forest (TCCF) and in 2014, alongside other partner organisations, accepted and adopted the Thames Chase Plan as the strategy document guiding the creation and development of the area known as the Thames Chase Community Forest. In partnership with others, the Council is therefore committed to achieving the objectives and targets within that plan. The Thames Chase Trust's target is to increase canopy cover to 30% of the TCCF's area and so this should be mentioned within the Brentwood Local Plan.
2. The Brentwood Local Plan should take full account of the Thames Chase Plan. The Council is a key partner and as per item 1 above; adopted the existing Plan in 2014. The Brentwood Local Plan should acknowledge the Council's commitment to achieving the objectives and targets within the Thames Chase Plan.
3. Within the Thames Chase Plan, Areas 4 (Thorndon and Warley Woods) and 5 (Havering and Essex Fringe) apply to Brentwood Borough Council. Our five Forest-wide programmes align with the core aims of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Brentwood Draft Local Plan (See items below).
4. The Brentwood Draft Local Plan references the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This aligns with the Thames Chase Plan. The NPPF recognises the ongoing role that Community Forests have to play in realising sustainable development. Paragraph 92 of the NPPF states:
Quote:
"Community Forests offer valuable opportunities for improving the environment around towns, by upgrading the landscape and providing for recreation and wildlife. An approved Community Forest plan may be a material consideration in preparing development plans and in deciding planning applications."
Unquote.
5. Consequently, the Thames Chase Plan sets out five Forest-wide programmes of delivery that are in alignment with the core aims of the NPPF: Foresty; Landscape Regeneration; Access; People; Promotion.
6. These five programmes not only encompass woodland and landscape regeneration, but also how that environment needs to be accessed and used by people to support health and wellbeing, education and economic growth. As well as echoing the ambition of the NPPF, the Community Forest Plan can also help strengthen Local Plan policies relating to these themes, supporting development of new Local Plans and development management decisions.

7. The Thames Chase Trust would seek to see reference made to the Thames Chase Community Forest (TCCF); its importance to the area and the diverse range of benefits it has provided to date and has the potential to do so in the future. It would also be beneficial to see a map of the borough and its relationship, in terms of location, with the TCCF area / boundary.
8. The TCCF is closely aligned with the Strategic Objectives identified in the Draft Local Plan i.e. Managing Growth, Sustainable Communities, Economic Prosperity, Environmental Protection and Enhancement, Quality of Life and Community Infrastructure, Transport and Movement. The Thames Chase Plan supports many of the objectives identified by the Council and the full document can be viewed at: www.thameschase.org.uk.

In conclusion, it is very welcome to see clear alignment between the Draft Local Plan and the Thames Chase Plan, however, the Thames Chase Trust would seek to see direct reference made to the TCCF within the Brentwood Local Plan and any supporting documents. The Thames Chase Trust believes that there is more scope to include further references that would acknowledge the wider range of opportunities provided by the Community Forest.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Brentwood Draft Local Plan.

Thank you for taking the time to respond. Please return forms to Planning Policy Team, Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY, or alternatively attach completed forms and email to **planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk**