



THORPE LEA HOUSING APPLICATION

Planning application RU.21/0192

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Egham Residents' Association does not normally comment on planning applications in other wards. But we shall make an exception in this case, as the site is only just outside the Egham Town ward and a planning consent would have serious implications for it.

Regrettably - to say the very least - hope of stopping housing development on this site was lost in principle when its removal from the Green Belt was sanctioned by the council's approval of the Runnymede 2030 Local Plan. From that moment it was largely, if not wholly, a matter of "when" and "how much".

A considerable number of objections were delivered when essentially the same application came forward in 2019, and we agree that the quantity of housing now proposed for the site - in what seems to be the first phase of a two-stage scheme - is still far too much.

It would add substantially to traffic congestion on the Thorpe Lea Road, at the double mini-roundabout where that road meets Vicarage Road and in Vicarage Road. It would also lead to longer queues at the Pooley Green crossing where, we have just been informed, barrier-down times will not be reduced by improved signalling.

It should not need stating furthermore that lungs, especially young ones, will not benefit from living in homes so close to the M25.

We hope this application will be turned down.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Fisher

Chairman, Egham Residents' Association

Date: 10th March 2021