

Panshanger People

Key Responses to Local Plan for WGC 4 (Airfield)

1. Panshanger Airfield is not a sustainable location as was previously pointed out by the Government Planning Inspector when they sought to undertake gravel extraction back in 2004.
2. Panshanger Airfield and the surrounding areas have a high historical and environmental value in terms of recreational green space and natural wildlife habitat. The Council have chosen to ignore this; no serious survey has been done.
3. There is a demand for more homes but spreading them across the whole of the Welwyn Hatfield Borough rather than just two main sites at WGC and Hatfield would be more sustainable and fairer. The Council have ignored the planner's recommendations. Their aim of more even dispersal is not met.
4. The airfield added value; it was an employment training and education site. Such sites are also protected under national planning policy. All of this has been ignored in this plan, including the expert reports that have been submitted.
5. There is a complete lack of infrastructure to cope with 700 new families on WGC4 with no provision for schools, medical facilities and shops. The area is too far from WGC town centre, train station, shops with existing community facilities already overstretched. This makes the site unsustainable.
6. Whilst there is an accepted need for Gypsy & Traveller sites the borough, the WGC4 proposal is not suitable, according to the evidence provided by WHBC. None of the 68 new traveller pitches proposed are in the south of the borough how is this fair spread?
7. The Airfield site was originally classified as 'finely balanced' yet the housing cabinet reclassified the site to more favourable status overriding the planning officer's classification.

You can submit your response online at www.welhat.gov.uk/localplan or complete the Local Plan Consultation Response Form and return to either the Council Offices or drop it off at Escape Therapies at Moors Walk shops.

The deadline for receipt of responses is 5pm on Thursday 19th March 2015.

Please support this campaign against development on the Airfield!
Visit our website for a lot more information: panshangerpeople.org.uk

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