

# Plan 2040 – a new Local Plan for Sevenoaks District

## Regulation 18 Part 2 - Comments Form

Consultation Period: 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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Please use a separate form for each Policy or Site that you wish to comment on.

1. Please specify the **policy or site** to which your comments relate:

**MX11- Land East of Mead Road, Edenbridge**

2. Do you have any comments on or suggested changes to the proposed policy/site?

Edenbridge Town Council strongly objects to the release of this Green Belt site for development on the grounds that it would represent an unacceptable extension of the town onto open land to the south east contrary to the purposes of the Green Belt in preventing the expansion of urban areas and safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. The site makes an important contribution to the Green Belt around Edenbridge and should be kept open.

In this respect the Town Council agrees with the conclusions of the District Council's own Green Belt Assessment. The proposal site cuts across the boundary of two parcels considered in the assessment, the western part includes SA116 and the north east includes part of SA120 while the central section lies beyond the outer edge of any of the parcels assessed (other small parcels of land between the proposal site and the inner edge of the Edenbridge Green Belt are recommended to be considered for release (SAs 117, 118 and 119) but these do not extend into the proposal site). The assessment concludes that both SA116 and 120 make an important contribution to the wider Green Belt and are not recommended for further consideration of possible release. The remainder of the proposal site extends further out from the town than the two parcels examined and could not possibly be any more suitable for release from the Green Belt. The Town Council is very disappointed that the District Council has failed to accept the recommendations of its own study with regard to this site.

The Town Council recognises the need for more housing and has accepted the case for the release of other more suitable sites elsewhere around the town. However, it does not accept that Green Belt land should be released for housing simply because it lies on the edge of the town.

The proposal for the site also includes five pitches for gypsy and traveller accommodation as an extension to an existing site. This is a relatively minor proposal compared with the 120 dwellings proposed and the Town Council does not see a need for five additional pitches on a small part of the site, if accepted, as in any way sufficient to justify the release of this much larger area of Green Belt for over 100 dwellings.

Overall, the Town Council does not consider that exceptional circumstances exist to justify removing the site from the Green Belt.

**Would you like to be added to our mailing list to be notified of updates to the Local Plan and future consultations?**

~~Yes~~ / No (Please delete as appropriate) *Already on list*

Please give your: **Name and Address, Email and Contact Number** and those of your Agent (if you have appointed one to act on your behalf). If you live in the District, please also note which Parish you live in.

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Comments that are submitted anonymously will not be accepted. Comments will be published and attributed by name/organisation only. Contact details will not be published but will be used to keep you informed of the progress of the Local Plan.

You can review our privacy notice at <https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/privacy>

This form can be downloaded from our website:  
[www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/plan2040](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/plan2040)

Please return this form by email to [planning.policy@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@sevenoaks.gov.uk) or to:  
**Strategic Planning Team, Sevenoaks District Council, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1HG**

All comments must be received by no later than **11:59pm on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. Comments received after the deadline may not be accepted.

Comments that are considered to be libelous, racist, abusive or offensive will not be accepted.

