

Ref: TRDC LDF Hearing – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Dear Sir

I moved to Croxley Green from Wembley. I moved here for two reasons – to be near to my family and to enjoy a more rural environment. My daughter moved here 30 years ago. She has always told me that one of the main reasons she moved here was to enjoy the countryside on her doorstep. Having grown up in Wembley, I am sure you can understand this. But you are about to remove huge swathes of previously protected countryside from our doorsteps. Why? I do not believe you have explained the special circumstances that might allow you to de-register our green belt. I do not believe that new housing or even new schools fulfil the criteria of ‘very special circumstances’.

I mistakenly thought that our green belt was protected and that the present government pledged to involve communities in any decision making that affects us. I live in sheltered accommodation. If I had not been told by my daughter about the de-registration of our greenbelt I would know absolutely nothing about it. I would have been one of the thousands of residents living in Croxley Green who only ever received the very first round of consultation from TRDC, which made absolutely no mention of de-registration of green belt in Croxley Green. Certainly none of the 30 residents where I live knew anything about it until I informed them. None of us can understand how such a radical decision can be made about our village without proper and full consultation with everyone who lives here, including the elderly and infirm. On that note, I am elderly and infirm, as are the majority of the residents where I live, so I will be unable to attend the inquiry, which greatly saddens me. I feel that Croxley Green will not be properly represented when so few of us know what you are proposing to do.

Please can you explain how this can possibly be happening and how come one person, you, can make such a contentious decision supposedly on our behalf when no proper explanation or information has been provided to the 12,000 residents who will be affected. The only reason I, and several other of the residents here, replied to the previous letter from Claire May at TRDC was because my daughter explained what you were proposing. There was no reference on Ms. May’s letter to removal of green belt which is why so many people failed to respond – we didn’t know what was going on. How can this be proper procedure? The letter from Ms. May should have been clear and simple, for all to understand.

I really fear for the future of our beautiful countryside. It is our heritage and we should be protecting it tooth and nail for future generations, just like our forefathers did for us when they allocated land as green belt all those years ago. Councils should be forced to reconsider their options and not be so greedy. Because it is all about the greed of Councils and developers. If someone doesn’t make a stand we will not longer live in a green and pleasant land and you, sir, will in all likelihood be partly to blame.

Yours sadly,  
Jane Wallbridge