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From: Bob Wiltshire [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 January 2023 13:48
To: Planning Policy
Subject: East Devon Local Plan query

Categories: Reg.18 consultation

I wish to make a submission regarding East Devon's emerging Local Plan.

Whilst I am aware that there is a requirement for the building of further housing, also the need to increase areas of woodland to help alleviate the problems of climate change and also the requirement to increase the means of making power more available. All the proposals that are being made are at the expense of using more and more potential land used for the production of food. Recent worldwide events have proved the folly of relying on other countries for the supply of food and fuel. Currently we import 50% of our foodstuffs.

There is a huge demand for affordable housing. Instead of building countless more estates and towns with many 2 and 3 bedroom houses, thought should be given to building tower blocks within city areas. They take up less ground space and are very suitable for first time buyers and elderly people wanting to size down. I would agree that they are not easy on the eye and have witnessed them in many eastern countries. However they do serve their purpose and take up less valuable land.

Solar power. It should be mandatory for all new buildings, be they farm, domestic or industrial to have solar panelling installed on roofs which are directionally suitable. The continual use of valuable agricultural land for this purpose should be discouraged.

Allowing trees to grow in hedgerows rather than faying them should be encouraged. Poor agricultural land such as Dartmoor, Exmoor etc. should be utilised for forestation. I realize that these are valuable recreational areas, but large areas could be made available.

The continual lessening of areas suitable for food production is suicidal.

Yours faithfully ,

Robert Wiltshire.