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**From:** PlanningEDDC  
**Sent:** 03 January 2023 08:57  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** FW: Some comments and observations on the proposed new Local Plan for East Devon.

**From:** John/Judith Wilson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 December 2022 17:23  
**To:** PlanningEDDC <planning@eastdevon.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Some comments and observations on the proposed new Local Plan for East Devon.

Firstly it seems Government Policy is changing and the target for 946 new houses a year for East Devon will probably soon move from a mandatory target to an aspirational one. This being so the Council should look into the possibility of this number being obtained without significant damage to the area, or if not possible contemplate a major reduction to more sustainable numbers. East Devon is an attractive place to live and one can see why builders would be anxious to build here and exert pressure on the Council so to do. Building onto some of East Devon's villages may well be a bad move. I live in West Hill which seems to have attracted far more than it's fair share of preferred sites than other villages do in the draft plan. It is difficult to see why this would be as jobs locally scarcely exist, the local school even at the moment is over subscribed, Coleridge Medical Centre in Ottery St Mary is almost impossible to access, that is in some cases one waits weeks for an appointment. Additionally transport links are not good. To summarize the infrastructure even for existing homes is poor and more pressure on it would be disastrous. Everyone I speak to thinks expansion of the village is a bad idea and so the Council can expect little support for it's proposals. I believe the Government stance on housebuilding is to get public consent in individual areas before planning permission is given for building in those areas. This seems unlikely to be obtained in West Hill. It seems sensible to me that if Council insists on retaining the 946 target it would be better to concentrate on expanding Cranbrook which is nearer to Exeter and potential jobs, has far better transport links than most East Devon villages and a more sustainable infrastructure of schooling and medical services. If really needed a further new Town could be contemplated on the western edge of the East Devon boundary as near to Exeter as possible although other out of area / county sites, although not as attractive from a builder's point of view (potential Profit) would be the far better option if the government still aspires to it's stated target of 300,000 houses per year to be built.

J G Wilson – [REDACTED]