

Good evening,

This is a submission to the Merton's pre-submission Estates Local Plan.

We broadly welcome the proposal and revised pre-submission with four reservations. To gain a greater level of support amongst the residents, the final iteration of this plan must address the following:

1. Take the opportunity to improve the transport accessibility from in the Mitcham Eastfields area from 'poor' to 'good'. Perhaps with the addition of more frequent busses and/or a commuter shuttle to and from Balham station from Mitcham Eastfields by using large area of unused land in and around the station. Turing Mitcham Eastfields into a spoke and Balham into a commuter hub – essentially giving tube access to Mitcham residents without the need to extend the Northern Line. Examples of hub and spoke model can be found globally.
2. p. 57 and 81 does not consider residents' views from Grove Road in line of sight through Lonesome Primary school site. Preferably a limit of building to two story within this line of sight. This would also address the feeling of being overlooked by residents of Woodstock way whose property back on to the site. Such a statement would add further weight and clarifies paragraph 3.38 p.62.
3. Further develop the ideas stated on pg.68 to allocate reasonable space to the development of a business community to support local employment. Restrict zoning to avoid the sites use to serve fast food. This would be in line with the councils stated ambitions of making Mitcham a safer and healthier place to live.
4. Clear guarantee that the construction of a road adjacent to the Acacia Centre would not put at risk the continued existence of the centre i.e. that it would be demolished or footprint reduced because of the roads construction.

Final point, the plan has misidentified the estate's location as Figges Marsh Ward (P.46) . It is in fact located in Longthornton Ward.

Please do keep us informed about the submission to the Secretary of State and the publication of the independent planning inspector's report and adoption of Merton's Estate Local Plan.

Regards,

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