



Claudia Riley-Hards

Conservative candidate for Long Ditton



WARNING – LONG DITTON GREEN BELT UNDER THREAT



Dear Neighbour,

Elmbridge Borough Council is consulting on five options which are designed to meet the housing needs of our borough for the next 15 years.

Options 2 and 3 of this 'Local Plan' consultation involve the release of three large areas of green belt – at Long Ditton, Cobham and Oxshott/Stoke D'Abernon for house building. This would be a disaster for our local environment at a time when tackling climate change is meant to be high on the Council's agenda.

You can act by going to <http://consult.elmbridge.gov.uk/consult.ti/LPOC/consultationHome> to have your say by 30 September. Please support Option 4: 'Optimise Urban Area'

In 2017, Elmbridge Council, being run by the Liberal Democrats and their coalition partners, consulted on building on our green belt. There were thousands of objections. As your Conservative candidate at the May 2018 local election I campaigned to save our precious Long Ditton green belt and came within eight votes of unseating a longstanding Lib Dem councillor.

At that time, Local Conservatives succeeded in taking control of Elmbridge Council for one year. We kept our promise. We instructed the officers to go back to the drawing board on the Local Plan and come up with Option 4, which pushes back on government targets, provides for 5,300 new homes of 3-bedrooms or fewer in existing built areas, and crucially has **NO BUILDING ON OUR GREEN BELT**.

I therefore urge you to support Option 4 in the consultation and at election time to judge parties on what they do rather than what they say. Elmbridge Conservatives have been unequivocal in word and deed in our support for preserving our Long Ditton green belt.

Three of the five options being consulted on include release of green belt and some cabinet members in the Liberal Democrat/Residents Association coalition, which has been running Elmbridge Council since May, are on record encouraging development on our green belt. The following quote appears in a letter to residents by the Lib Dem's coalition partner, The Walton Society:

We suggest you describe your favored option as "Providing 5,300 homes, with the release of 3 areas of Green Belt. The Green Belt land will provide 1,400 hundred homes and the remaining 3,900 homes can be built in the Urban Area".

In both the 2018 and 2019 elections, we warned that our green belt is not safe with the Liberal Democrats and their allies. Only the Conservatives have a consistent policy on this vital issue.

Kind regards,

Claudia Riley-Hards

Claudia Riley-Hards
Long Ditton resident and prospective Conservative candidate



Would you be interested in finding out more about helping Long Ditton Conservatives protect our Green Belt by:

- Delivering a few leaflets locally now and again
- Hearing about social events and ways to be involved
- Joining the Long Ditton Conservatives as a friend or a member
- Potentially standing to be a Local Conservative Councillor

Please contact office@esherwalton.com