

From: D
Subject: EXAMINATION OF LOCAL I O W PLAN
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To: louise@poservices.co.uk



DAVID LAURENCE

INVITED COMMENTS

RE

EXAMINATION OF ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL PLANNING STRATEGY

MATTER 1 -- GENERAL PLAN MAKING

THE I. O .W HAS MANY AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY AND NATURAL COUNTRYSIDE ,ENJOYED BOTH BY THE LOCAL POPULATION AND VISITORS . THIS IS SLOWLY BEING LOST THROUGH A CREEPING DEVELOPMENT.

BEING AN ISLAND IT HAS A LIMITED AREA OF SUCH LAND WHEREUPON OVER DEVELOPMENT WOULD DESTROY SUCH A VALUABLE PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITY .

FURTHERMORE ANY LARGE INCREASE IN SEWAGE DRAINAGE FACILITIES WOULD PROVE DETRIMENTAL TO THE SURROUNDING ISLAND WATERS ITS HABITATS AND LEISURE USE.

MATTER2 ---LEVELS OF GROWTH

ANY HOUSING REQUIREMENTS SHOULD GIVE PRIORITY IN ACCOMMODATING THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY ALONG WITH A PERCENTAGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, FOR ISLAND PEOPLE, INSTEAD OF PROVIDING SECOND HOLIDAY HOMES AND RETIREMENT INDUCEMENTS, FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO MAKE THE ISLAND THEIR HOME .AS IS HAPPENING TO DATE.

INCREASED DEVELOPMENT ON THE ISLAND WOULD NOT BRING MORE ECONOMIC GROWTH ,DUE TO THE FACTORS OF LIMITED AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT ALSO THE FACT THAT THE ISLAND WOULD BECOME JUST A COMMUTER BELT OF THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND BRINGING NO ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE LOCALLY.

MATTER 4 --ENVIRONMENT

AS AT PRESENT MANY HOUSES HAVE BEEN BUILT WITHIN LOCALLY KNOWN FLOOD AREAS WHICH IN TURN INCREASES THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH FLOODING ISSUES ,AND THE DAMAGING EFFECT BOTH TO LAND STABILITY AND HIGHWAYS .

PLUS EXTRA COSTS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY AND ALSO THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO OFTEN ARE UNWITTINGLY ASSOCIATED WITH THESE PROBLEMS.

MATTER 6-- SITES FOR HOUSING

MANY RURAL AREAS ARE NOT OF SUFFICIENT SIZE ,AS NOT TO BE OVERWHELMED BY EXTENSIVE SCALE DEVELOPMENTS. THEY DO NOT HAVE THE INFRASTRUCTURE TO COPE IE; ROADS,MEDICAL,PUBLIC TRANSPORT ETC .THE SCALE OF A LARGE INCREASE WITH SUCH DEVELOPMENTS ARE OF LITTLE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE TO AN ISLAND THAT HAS BY SIZE A LIMITED AREA OF LAND AVAILABILITY.

MATTER 8 – ECONOMIC GROWTH

A LIMITED NUMBER OF INDUSTRIES WOULD CONSIDERER THE ISLAND ,BUT TO A MAJORITY THE SOLENT AND ITS FERRY COSTS OF TRANSPORTATION WOULD PROVE A BARRIER. AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE EXISTS A SUPPLY OF VACANT INDUSTRIAL SITES AND UNITS WHEREUPON IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE MANY MORE WOULD NOT BE NEEDED .

SHOULD MORE LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT TAKE PLACE BOTH IN HOUSING AND INDUSTRIES ,THIS IN ITSELF WOULD PROVE DETRIMENTAL TO TOURISM, DUE TO INCREASED URBANISATION WHICH WOULD OPPOSE THE WHOLE REASONS THAT TOURIST VISITORS COME TO THE ISLAND IN ORDER TO AVOID.

MATTER 9 -- TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE ETC

DUE TO ITS SMALL AREA THE ISLAND DOES NOT HAVE ADEQUATE ROADS WITH WHICH TO COPE WITH THE INCREASE IN TRAFFIC THAT WOULD RESULT IN LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT PLANS .

TO DATE AREAS AROUND ISLAND TOWNS BECOME SEVERELY CONGESTED WITH TRAFFIC AND INCREASED POLLUTION HAZARDS, BUT DURING THE SUMMER AREAS OF THE ISLAND BECOME NO GO AREAS DUE TO THE TRAFFIC VOLUME ,THIS IN TURN AFFECTS NOT ONLY RESIDENTS BUT BOTH LARGE AND SMALL BUSINESSES THAT HAVE TO USE VEHICLES, INCLUDING PUBLIC TRANSPORT. THE WHOLE ISLANDS ROAD STRUCTURE WOULD NOT BE CAPABLE OF

HANDLING SUCH INCREASES. ALSO THERE WOULD BE NO WAY THAT CYCLE PATHS COULD BE INTRODUCED IN THE QUANTITY NEEDED, OR COME TO THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF LAND TO ACHIEVE A VIABLE INCREASE.

BUS SERVICES SERVING OUTLYING AREAS OF THE ISLAND WOULD PROVE WOEFULLY INADEQUATE AND ONLY ONE RAIL LINK EXISTS .

THE ISLAND ROADS ARE ALSO UNSUITABLE FOR THE LARGE VEHICLES THAT HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS WOULD REQUIRE.

SCHOOLING, SOCIAL CARE ,HOSPITALS G. P.s ,DENTISTS THESE ARE ALREADY UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL POPULATION, AND IN THE SUMMER MONTHS THE SITUATION BECOMES UNTENABLE, DUE TO SUCH INFRASTRUCTURAL SHORTAGES, AND AT THE PRESENT TIME ATTEMPTS TO INTRODUCE EXTRA DOCTORS,DENTISTS HAVE HAD MINOR SUCCESS.

BEING AN ISLAND IT RELIES ON FERRY CONNECTIONS AND IT IS WIDELY KNOWN THAT THESE ARE BOTH HUGELY EXPENSIVE AND TO A DEGREE UNRELIABLE.

THEREFORE THE EXTRA COSTS THIS BRINGS TO BOTH THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND TO BUSINESSES THIS PROVES A BARRIER AS WELL TO EXTRA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUCEMENT TO NEW BUSINESSES CHOOSING TO SET UP ON THE ISLAND .

ADDED TO THIS THE PROBLEMS OF OFF ISLAND COMMUTING FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW RESIDENCE.

SUMMARY

ISLANDS ARE DIFFERENT AND THIS HAS BEEN PROVEN TIME AND AGAIN TO NEW ILL INFORMED BUSINESS AND RESIDENCE ALIKE. BEING AN ISLAND WE HAVE TO RECOGNISE THAT DEVELOPMENTS OF A LARGE SCALE, BOTH INDUSTRIAL AND DOMESTIC ARE IMPRACTICAL, THIS BEING A FACT ,AND SOMETHING THAT GOVERNMENTS CONTINUALLY FAIL TO RECOGNISE.

OVERALL PROPOSALS IN ANY FORM OF LARGE SCALE PRIVATE OR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS WOULD NOT BE OF BENEFIT TO THE ISLAND , AND WOULD CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS THAN ADVANTAGES DUE TO THE ISLANDS TOTAL SMALL AREA OF LAND, ITS INFRASTRUCTURE, ITS FACT OF ACCESSIBILITY BY BEING AN ISLAND.

ALSO THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT IT WOULD CAUSE TO ITS MOST IMPORTANT ATTRACTIONS THAT BRING VISITING TOURISTS, UNSPOILT COUNTRYSIDE, OLD ENGLISH CHARM, A PLACE TO RELAX AND UNWIND AND GENERAL

NON URBANISED SCENIC BEAUTY .

