

# A PLAN TO PROTECT OUR FOREST

The facts behind EFDC's Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy

**THERE ARE NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO INTRODUCE A CAZ. THERE WILL BE NO CAZ WITHOUT CONSULTATION !**

The Opposition Parties knew about the strategy in July when it was first reported to Cabinet, they had plenty of opportunity to comment, scrutinise & raise at committee.

Many small developers, local businesses & residents have been detrimentally affected by this issue, with some losing or at risk of losing their livelihood at this difficult time.

No plan + no strategy = no control. This could see local housing numbers DOUBLE.



- Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) has a legal duty to consult Natural England & to take account of their advice to protect the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation.
- The Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy contains many measures to achieve the conversion to ultra-low emission vehicles which should make a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) unnecessary.
- There are no plans for a CAZ to be introduced immediately. Over the coming years EFDC will conduct air quality & traffic modelling. A decision will be taken after the monitoring information is collected in 2024/25.
- There will be full consultation on any CAZ with residents, council members & other local stakeholders.
- In the draft Local Plan EFDC's housing requirement is for 11,400 new homes by 2033. If this strategy & the plan fails housing numbers would nearly double to 21,000.

**"If we act now & implement the other measures in the strategy a CAZ would be unnecessary. A CAZ is the last option." - Cllr Nigel Bedford**

- Since 2018 and until the Strategy was adopted, EFDC has not been able to grant planning permission for any development which results in a net increase in traffic through the Forest.
- This has negatively affected **individual residents** (*who may want to build a granny annexe or single property for their family*), **businesses and small developers**. Some businesses have or were at risk of losing their livelihood at an already difficult time.
- In addition, **Affordable Housing Schemes** for local people have been paused, including EFDC's own council house building programme.
- **The Forest is precious, and it is vital that it is protected**. It is also important that we **deliver new homes, for future generations, in a sustainable way** which has minimum impact on our environment.

**THE OPPOSITION PARTIES ARE MISLEADING YOU.  
THIS IS WHERE THEY REALLY STAND...**

**THE GREEN PARTY WANT TOUGHER MEASURES WHICH WILL COST YOU MORE.**



**Green Party**

**THE LIB DEMS ARE TOO SCARED TO TELL YOU WHAT THEY WANT... BUT THEY AGREE WITH THE GREEN PARTY.**

**Liberal Democrats**

**THE LRA WANT NO DEVELOPMENT AT ALL, THIS MEANS NO ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**



**THE LABOUR PARTY HAVE ALREADY IMPLEMENTED A CAZ IN LONDON & HAVE PLANS TO EXTEND IT FURTHER.**

**Labour**