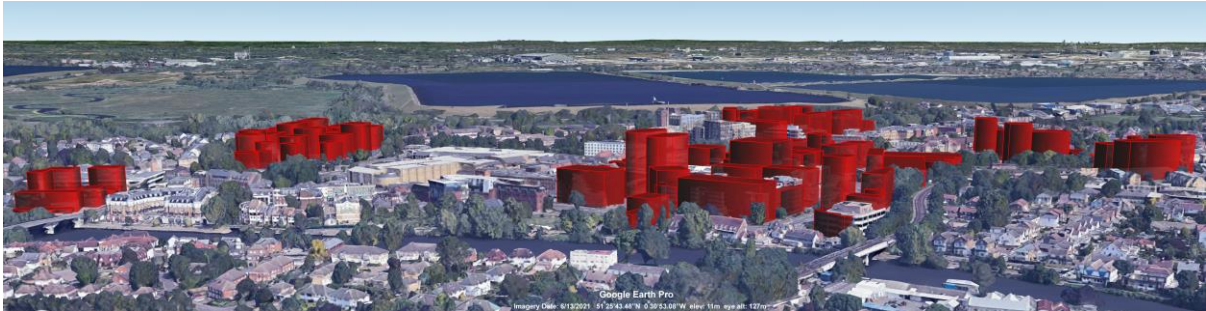




20 September 2022

## COUNCIL PLAN TO WRECK STAINES 'UNSOUND' AND MUST BE REJECTED



*This illustration is from the animated 3D digital model of 'Staines of the future' ([click here to view](#)). It was produced for Riverside Residents (Staines) Coalition following the Council's refusal to produce a physical or digital model to support and help inform its 'public consultation' on the impact of its proposals for Staines-upon-Thames.*

A BLISTERING ATTACK ([click here](#) to read it) on Spelthorne Council's plan to wreck Staines was submitted today by the Riverside Residents (Staines) Coalition to persuade the government Planning Inspector to reject what is proposed. The overdevelopment of Staines is part of the Council's 'Local Plan' for the borough which needs government approval to proceed. If the Plan is approved, 55 per cent of the borough's entire housing target will be dumped on Staines, peppering the town with tower-blocks of tiny flats and resulting in a 50 per cent increase in its population. Even those responsible for the Plan say it "*pleases no-one*" ... and in a recent survey of residents' views, less than three per cent said they think the proposals for Staines are fair, reasonable or sustainable ([click here](#) for details).

The Plan fails to demonstrate, as it claims to do, "*how the town can grow in a sustainable and sensitive way, delivering for our residents, while offering the necessary protection for areas*". It provides alarmingly insufficient actual evidence that Staines can "*accommodate the growth required for the Local Plan to be successfully delivered*".

"What those responsible for the Plan say about it in its introduction is essentially an explanation for why it should have been strangled at birth," says a spokesperson for the Riverside Residents (Staines) Coalition. "The Plan is precise about how many new homes must be built in Staines (5,440); but extremely vague about what infrastructure (schools, medical and emergency services, utilities, etc) will be needed to support the planned overdevelopment, how it will be delivered, what it will cost and who will pay for it. It takes little account of serious flood risk, and is cavalier about conservation and protection of sensitive areas like the riverfront and Conservation Areas. We believe it is unsound and undeliverable and have recommended a number of significant changes to it, not least to mitigate the worst excesses of the 'high-rise hell' currently planned for Staines."

**Riverside Residents (Staines) Coalition** – a working group of six residents' organisations serving the interests of residents on both sides of the river. Supported by other residents' organisations across Staines.

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