

COUNCIL – 25 JUNE 2008

PETITIONS

The following petition, comprising approximately 1,350 signatures, has been submitted by the Parish Councils north of Harlow comprising STOP Harlow North (Eastwick and Gilston, High Wych and Allen's Green, Hunsdon, Much Hadham, Widford and Sawbridgeworth). The petition will be presented by Sam Clark, High Wych Parish Council and Ian Brett, Widford Parish Council representing STOP Harlow North.

Dear Councillors

**Legal Challenge to the East of England Plan**

When the East of England Plan was published earlier this month, the supporters of this organisation were dismayed to see that it still contained specific reference to a major development north of Harlow. This is despite the overwhelming body of technical arguments and public outcry against such proposals that has been presented to the Examination in Public, EERA and subsequently GO-East during preparation of the plan. For this weight of evidence against the proposals, and the conclusion of the independent Planning Inspector, to have been ignored by the 'final' plan is not only morally unacceptable but indicates that due process cannot have been followed.

We therefore believe that the East of England Plan should be challenged through the judicial system, and that the inclusion of development north of Harlow is a prime and specific instance of improper preparation of the plan. We understand that Hertfordshire County Council, with the support of ten of its District Councils, is considering mounting such a legal challenge to the East of England Plan, and **the undersigned urge you to vigorously seek and actively support such proposition.**

The East of England Plan is a devastating threat to the environment and quality of life for all in East Herts. We expect the District and County Councils to do all in their power to oppose it and look forward to receiving confirmation that this is your intended plan of action.