



## ***Respecting the past, shaping the future***

Press release from  
Suffolk Preservation Society  
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### **Plans for huge development “massively premature”**

Plans for a huge development of 2,000 homes, employment space, a hotel, park, school and energy centre are massively premature and should be taken no further, a leading campaign group has warned.

The call comes from Suffolk Preservation Society (SPS), which says the proposal to redevelop the Adastral Business Park at Martlesham along with neighbouring greenfield land, should be rejected until a long-term strategic plan for the future of the area is drawn up.

The application, lodged with planners at Suffolk Coastal District Council, is for 2,000 homes, 60,000 square metres of employment floorspace, a mixed use centre, primary school, hotel, energy centre, public park, new road connections and changes to the A12 junction.

But it has been submitted before detailed 15-year plans, identifying potential sites for housing needed to meet government targets, have been drawn up, and is causing considerable concern to local residents who fear its potential impact, the society says.

“This proposal is extremely premature and simply cannot proceed as it stands,” said Richard Ward, society director.

“It represents a vast development and is understandably causing concern amongst the local community. The total package is on a massive scale and would have a huge impact on the surrounding area – not least through the increase in traffic which it would generate.

“Together with local residents, we are also extremely concerned about the inclusion of greenfield land in this proposal. While we appreciate that local councils have a duty to meet government targets for building new homes, we feel very strongly that this should not come at the expense of the local environment or against the will of the community.”

The society added that the size of the proposal meant it should not be decided through an ad-hoc planning application.

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It should instead be considered alongside strategic plans which take into account additional factors such as the need to improve infrastructures such as roads and power supplies.

“This proposal, as it stands, has done nothing but alienate local people and should be rejected immediately,” added Mr Ward.

“Government targets for the construction of new homes are forcing local councils to look for sites which are often totally unacceptable. We feel that it is time that the number of new homes needed in our county is decided on a more local level. That way, we can plan properly – while retaining Suffolk’s distinctiveness and with the support of its population.”

**Ends**

### **Note to editors:**

SPS, founded in 1929, originally worked to protect the county’s buildings and landscape. Today, the society has broadened its focus to help shape Suffolk’s future, largely campaigning for sensitive and appropriate development, more and better quality affordable homes and to ensure sustainable infrastructures are in place to support the county’s communities.

### **For more information please contact:**

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