



LOCAL COMMITTEE  
(RUNNYMEDE)

WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS  
26th FEBRUARY 2010

**1. Question on proposals for the DERA site, Longcross – from Mr Rob Truefitt of Virginia Water**

"I understand that some 3000+ extra vehicles during weekday rush hours would be generated in the area as a result of developing 2,500 new homes on the former DERA site at Longcross. What solutions to this have your Surrey County Council traffic consultants come up with, and have they advised others with similar car problems in a Green Belt location?"

**Answer from Surrey County Council's Transport Development Control team:**

"The DERA site has been allocated in the South East Plan as a "large-scale mixed-use development". There is, according to the wording of the plan, still the need to test and examine its precise scale and mix of uses through Local Development Documents. The County remains of the view that it is an unsustainable location and therefore unsuitable for a new community as the evidence base has not been provided to support the choice of site. As matters currently stand, we will work with the developers and the Borough to produce an exemplar development. From the outset, we are encouraging the developer to design the transport strategy around the Eco-Towns advice notes/guidance/policy documents, in an attempt at lessening its impact on the local communities and wider travel demand. Notwithstanding that, there will still clearly be an impact on local communities which will need to be modelled and mitigated where possible.

It is premature to judge at this stage the actual volumes of traffic that might be generated by the development, but various scenarios will be considered in the process over future months. There are no proven solutions, as although

we have the tools of travel planning, demand management, and various other initiatives that could be used in an attempt at making the site more sustainable, their overall impact needs to be tempered with caution, especially in a location such as this. The County Council has its own Transportation Development Control team, that assesses these issues on all developments in the County. The team was integral to the case against the recent proposals for a new community at Dunsfold in the south of the County, which was dismissed at Public Inquiry. Similar issues will arise at the DERA site, so the team is well placed to proffer advice throughout the process."

ITEM 4– TABLED