

Dear Dr Vyas, Mr Whear, Cllr Bright, Cllr Cohen and Cllr Turner,

Re: Schopwick Surgery Patient Liaison

We are writing to you on behalf of ALFA (Allum Lane Fields Association, currently with over 350 members). We are furious that Schopwick Surgery has sent out a Patient Liaison booklet (see attached) to all existing patients, outlining the relocation of their Elstree practice and requesting feedback.

The booklet not only includes the new medical centre but a large care home and 280 new houses, filling the whole of site BE1.

It is our understanding that the Local Plan has not yet been published and won't be until Spring 2021. This document, which we feel is wholly premature, implies the entire development has already been approved, and if this is not the case, it is very misleading.

Whilst we understand and appreciate the need for the expansion and relocation of Schopwick Surgery, this consultation should not have been allowed to occur ahead of the Local Plan. We would like to know on what grounds it was approved and if the grounds are not sufficient, ask that it be stopped.

We also want to confirm, or not, that the new medical centre is NOT DEPENDENT on the care home and housing development being approved/built as it would significantly affect the response to this proposal. We are not convinced another care home is needed in our area, and we are totally against the proposed housing estate on this green belt land for many reasons, as set out on our website – www.alfaelstree.weebly.com

Lastly, can you please explain why other existing sites on Watling Street and Allum Lane, including Centennial Park, are not being pursued. Although we strongly oppose any development on green belt land, we would like to know the reasons for deviating from the original plan to locate the medical centre on the much smaller site HEL341 (with developers King and Co and to include an extension to the cemetery) leaving the BE1 green belt fields free from development.

ALFA would appreciate your prompt response as this is a matter of great concern to our members.

Yours sincerely,

Jeannie Hinds, Marcia Freeman and Helen Stammers
On behalf of ALFA