



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

7th March 2018

Labour councillors call for cancellation of programme to build on Bexley parks

Bexley's Labour Group of councillors have tonight tabled a motion calling upon Bexley's Conservative councillors to scrap their controversial plans to build homes on four parks and open spaces in Erith, Northumberland Heath and Sidcup.

The motion tabled at the annual budget setting meeting called upon the council to cancel the £30 million earmarked to build homes on the sites and instead use that money to identify new sites for development.

In addition, the motion called upon the council's cabinet to cease the transfer of the four sites at Old Farm Park (Sidcup), West Street (Erith) and Wilde Road East and West (Northumberland Heath) to the council's development company BexleyCo; and called on the cabinet committee to request a revised business plan from BexleyCo to remove any future development at the sites at Old Farm Park, West Street and Wilde Road East and West.

The motion was defeated with every Conservative councillor present voting to maintain the programme to build on the borough's parks and open spaces.

A further four smaller sites in Erith and Crayford are currently in the process of being sold to private land owners and developers.

Cllr Joe Ferreira, Shadow Cabinet Member for the Environment said "Over the last four years, we have consistently supported residents from across the borough in their campaign to stop the council building on their local parks. Tonight, we have given Bexley's Conservative councillors the chance to cancel this programme and they have rejected the opportunity to do so."

Cllr Daniel Francis, Leader of the Labour Group said "A key commitment in our 2018 council election manifesto will be that if Bexley residents elect a majority Labour controlled council, that we will cancel the Conservative's programme to build on Bexley's parks.

Bexley's Conservative Councillors are determined to continue this programme and the only alternative now available to Bexley residents who want to cancel the programme is to vote Labour at the council elections on 3rd May."

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