

New Housing Developments Threaten Wildlife



A quarter of UK mammals are at imminent risk of extinction

How many times must scientists warn the government that wildlife is collapsing? The UN has warned that a million species of wildlife are now at risk of extinction globally and, here in the UK, the government has been warned that a quarter of UK mammals are at imminent risk of extinction.

By destroying wildlife habitat the government guarantees it will drive creatures like hedgehogs, water voles, badgers, red squirrels, several species of bat and others to extinction.

Daws Heath, Benfleet

One site in Daws Heath is earmarked for hundreds of homes. This wildlife rich habitat is currently home to muntjac deer, fallow deer, barn owls, tawny owls, little owls, foxes, badgers, green woodpeckers and pipistrelle bats amongst others. All of this will be driven out if the government has its way.

COVID-19, HIV, Ebola, SARS, MERS, CJD

The national newspapers, the BBC and Channel 4 News have all recently reported that more viruses are being transmitted from wildlife to humans. By encroaching upon wildlife, humanity is coming into ever closer contact with the species that carry viruses that can cross over to humans.

The World Health Organisation has shown that COVID-19, HIV, Ebola, SARS, MERS, CJD are zoonotic diseases that have jumped from wildlife to humans. Covid 19 almost certainly jumped from bats to humans. And we run the grave risk of another, possibly worse, pandemic if we continue to destroy wildlife habitat.

The government is determined to cover ever more of our corner of Essex in concrete, destroying wildlife habitat. Of course we need more homes, but the current strategy is deeply flawed.

Climate breakdown is now upon us

Unprecedented forest fires in California, Siberia, Australia and other extreme weather events around the world show that our climate is breaking down. The national media and TV are now running more articles warning us that our food supply could be severely damaged. If we don't slash greenhouse gas emissions incredibly quickly, the scientists warn the youngest members of our families run the risk of food shortages and hunger.

We need to protect our families from politicians who refuse to pay attention to science.

The plan to stop government from destroying wildlife

Throughout Essex large numbers of people have had enough and are standing for council at the next local elections. Some will stand as Independents, some will stand for the Green Party - all with the intention of removing Conservative Councillors from office. The plan that emerged is to remove enough Conservative Councillors over the next 2 years to force National Government to stop the destruction of wildlife habitat and greenbelt land.

But we want government to **ACT NOW**. We appeal to all Conservative Councillors and MPs to listen to the science, listen to the people and save everyone from making a huge effort to stop the Tories from destroying wildlife.