

FEDORA'S ROLE IN RESPONDING TO PROPOSED GREEN AND GREY BELT DEVELOPMENT

FEDORA - the Voice for Oxshott CIC's ("FEDORA") stated objective is to carry on activities for the general benefit of the community of Oxshott and in particular to take such actions as deemed necessary to conserve and enhance the environment of Oxshott, the amenities and infrastructure of Oxshott village and its surroundings, and to bring the Company's views to the appropriate authorities and other relevant parties.

In line with this stated objective, FEDORA's focus in responding to the threat of Green and Grey belt development in and around Oxshott is to:

1. **Establish the facts, understand the criteria by which decisions will be made, and employ a 2-level approach comprising:**
 - strategic arguments for resisting harmful development, in particular for the reclassification of Green Belt as Grey Belt
 - more detailed arguments for particular, potential development sites, ensuring that we have the maximum time and ability to respond to proposals, and can communicate the full position to people.

2. **Encourage and provide support to local groups/Residents Associations** who represent those who will be most impacted and that wish to resist development of particular sites.

3. If/when it is clear that development is likely to be approved, do whatever is possible to **mitigate the negative impact** for all residents and **seize opportunities to improve conditions and/or deal with pre-existing problems.**

4. **Liaise with:**
 - local councillors at both Elmbridge BC and Surrey CC
 - officers of Surrey Highways and Elmbridge Planning Department
 - developers of individual sites
 - other local organisations: CDRA, SDRA and CCHT, for example

5. **Communicate with our members and supporters** across the community by email and website updates, and hold public meetings to raise awareness of proposals, keep people informed and seek feedback.

FEDORA sees it as important that residents have the correct information so that they can make their own assessment of what to do.

Purpose

FEDORA aims to represent the whole community. In respect of some issues, such as speeding in the High Street and night time HGV traffic, it has been clear that the desire for change was supported by everyone and so FEDORA led the campaigns to bring about change.

However, in respect of other issues such as planning applications, views can be more mixed and FEDORA has decided that it will not take a position which does not have strong majority support. For example, in relation to the proposed High Street developments FEDORA publicised the facts and the options available to people to respond but, given differing views among significant numbers of Oxshott residents about the proposed development, FEDORA did not take a position either in support of or against the planning applications. In addition, FEDORA has limited resources with which to get involved in the detail of all development applications.

With regards to development of Green Belt and Grey Belt, FEDORA's recent survey has shown that views are mixed. While many oppose development on the Green or Grey Belt; some recognise the national picture and are not against appropriate development; some wish to oppose development on certain sites but would not object to appropriate development at other sites; and some are keen to see more social housing built in this area.

Therefore, in summary, FEDORA's role in relation to proposals to build on Green/Grey Belt in Oxshott will be to provide facts and information and take a lead on strategic issues of importance to the whole community. FEDORA will provide support to local residents who wish and can commit resources to organise local opposition to specific proposals but will not take the lead in opposing **all** aspects of proposed development.