



Tuesday, 17 March 2009

Comment by Keith Brown, Treasurer of Essex County Cricket Club following the decision by Government to have a Public Inquiry into our planning application to redevelop our ground with eventual determination by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Keith Brown exclusively told the Essex Cricket website – [www.essexcricket.org.uk](http://www.essexcricket.org.uk) “We are immensely disappointed by the decision because we believe everything has been done to satisfy Government Policy and the Development Plan for Chelmsford. Our development is a high quality design bringing much needed housing and jobs to the area. This scheme would act as a catalyst for the regeneration of the town centre and moreover takes proper account of the flood risk by retaining the flood storage capability of the site as well as raising the entire scheme safely out of the flood plain.”

“It brings huge benefit to young people and the wider community together with substantial economic advantages to the town, not least in the development of Chelmsford as an internationally recognised cricketing venue. This delay creates uncertainty at a time when the economic conditions are very difficult and puts in jeopardy the whole funding and financial viability of the project. However, we have no choice but to make our case at the Public Inquiry and trust it will be expedited to allow the Secretary of State to determine the application with minimum delay.”

**Please direct all enquiries to:**

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