

## **Submission to Mayor of Liverpool's Commission on Environmental Sustainability**

### Quality of Place

The Mayor of Liverpool is proposing to sell off Sefton Park Meadows for executive housing, which was first publicised in March 2013.

Since then there has been an ongoing campaign to stop the proposed sale. The reason for this campaign is because of the undoubted quality of this place, which should not be compromised by any development on the land.

Sefton Park Meadows is a grand sweeping tree lined entrance to Sefton Park as indicated by the 1872 finished plan of Sefton Park which shows no houses on Sefton Park Meadows.

Constraints detailed within Liverpool City Council Unitary Development Plan 2002 (UDP), Local Development Framework / Liverpool Core Strategy 2012, LCC Open Space Study, LCC Green Infrastructure Strategy and National Planning Policy Framework should protect Sefton Park Meadows from being developed for housing.

The UDP states new building should not be allowed if it results in loss of open space or landscape features important to the character and landscape of the area.

In addition the Green Infrastructure Strategy developed with Council involvement and formally agreed and adopted refers to the Meadows as part of Sefton Parklands and the city's important green corridors.

The National Planning Policy Framework states that local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them.

This green space is demonstrably special to the people of Liverpool and holds a particular local significance, because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity and richness of its wildlife.

Also the site is within the Sefton Park Conservation Area and within the significant setting of Grade I designated Sefton Park.

This nationally significant site is a valuable public green open space amenity of great ecological, environmental and historical value, surrounded by mature trees with tree preservation orders.

Public opinion is very much in favour of retaining Sefton Park Meadows as public green open space, but is against the sale of Sefton Park Meadows for housing development.

Liverpool City Council has great financial problems inflicted by the Coalition government and is being innovative in tackling these problems.

The City of Liverpool will not stand or fall on whether Sefton Park Meadows is sold or not. There must be an alternative to burying the Meadows under concrete. Leave the site as it is, a significant part of Sefton Park for the benefit of generations to come and has been since 1872.

The importance of opportunities for being outdoors, in green open spaces, is now well accepted, regarding its value for mental health and wellbeing, as well as physical fitness. In Liverpool we need every green open space we have.

**Submitted by the Save Sefton Park Meadows Campaign Group**

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