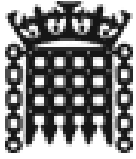


NEWS RELEASE



NIGEL WATERSON MP

EASTBOURNE

SHADOW PENSIONS MINISTER

SHADOW MINISTER FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Harbour ‘Masterplan’ a Smokescreen, says M.P.

Eastbourne MP Nigel Waterson has hit out at local councillors whom he accuses of ‘obstruction’ over the long-awaited building of a health centre at Sovereign Harbour. The MP had written to borough council planners to enquire about the status of the “masterplan” for undeveloped sites at the Harbour recently unveiled by local councillor Susan Morris.

The reply from the council made it clear that this plan was not officially adopted by the council, but instead set out “the views of the local Sovereign Ward Councillors, who are part of the group discussing the future Masterplan”.

Nigel reacted with anger. “This seems to me just a smokescreen - a blatant attempt to confuse my constituents in the harbour area. The so-called Masterplan is not signed up to by the borough council, the land owners or local residents. It merely represents the latest attempt by Councillor Morris and her colleagues to obstruct progress on the much-needed health centre.”

And County Councillor David Elkin, representing the Harbour, joined Mr. Waterson in commenting; “The land for the health centre has been identified, Carillion are happy to make it available at a reasonable price, the PCT have drawn up plans and allocated the funds, and Dr. Adoki has submitted the planning application. Nigel our MP and I fully support the project.”

“So what is holding it up? The answer is the local council and especially the ward councillors. Local residents are really angry.”

(ends)

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