

From: Ben Holland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 14 March 2025 12:04
To: Richmond Local Plan
Subject: Eel Pie Island Floodplain Objection

Categories: Consultation Response

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Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed reclassification of Eel Pie Island as a functional floodplain. As a resident of [REDACTED], I deeply care about the islands not just as a place but as a home and a community.

My mother, [REDACTED], chose to move to Eel Pie Island because of its beauty and strong sense of community. Tragically, she died just over a year ago from [REDACTED], leaving me the home she built there, [REDACTED]. This home is now my most significant connection to her memory. The proposed reclassification of Eel Pie Island as a functional floodplain would make it near impossible for me - and many others - to continue living on the island, threatening not only our homes but also the close-knit community that Eel Pie Island is.

If Eel Pie Island is designated as a functional floodplain, it would have devastating consequences. It would drastically increase insurance costs, make obtaining mortgages near impossible, and effectively prohibit any future chance of receiving planning permissions. This would force both me and other residents to leave the place they have called home, dismantling a thriving community which has existed for years.

My mother adored Eel Pie Island and its community, and I firmly believe that others should continue to have the opportunity to experience it as she did. I sincerely urge the Planning Inspectors to reconsider the proposal - whether that is by maintaining the existing definition of the functional floodplain (Flood Zone 3b) or by making an exception for Eel Pie Island - so that it can remain a residential island where its community can continue to flourish.

Sincerely,
Ben Holland