
Draft Enfield Local Plan - Proposed Site Allocation Ref. No. SA45 –

Land Between Camlet Way and Crescent West, Hadley Wood

I am fully aware of the need for more housing in and around London and also the need for the council to meet housing targets. However we as a society have a responsibility to future generations in preventing short termism jeopardising long-term conservation of the environment in all of its forms. Each and every irretrievable loss of the green spaces, trees, fauna and wildlife is a denigration of our duty of care. With this in mind it seems that using Green Belt for development is an easy option without having fully explored the brownfield sites that must be available in the borough.

The loss of Green Belt in Hadley Wood and future intensification of housing will not only have an environmental effect by removal of natural flora and fauna, it will enlarge urbanisation and by increasing the surface area of land which is concreted, it will substantially escalate the risk of flooding during heavy rainstorms, something that is already happening.

Although there is a policy to increase housing near public transport so that the increase would not affect road usage, this is not a valid argument for Hadley Wood. The rail service is poor. Increased housing of the extent planned, will put strain on the infrastructure, which is already inadequate to support the population, meaning that car usage is required for access to infrastructure facilities such as GP practices, shopping, schools etc. Since Hadley Wood is poorly supplied with exit roads, there is already frequently severe congestion in accessing Cockfosters Road and High Barnet. Increased traffic can only make this worse.

It is frightening to think that the council is considering removal of an even larger area of Green Belt at Chase Park, with the same environmental disregard as outlined above.

I strongly object to the Plan.