

+Building on the green belt or how does Enfield Council let people down



Because (or thanks?) to Covid, our world is changing. And for the better.

But like the small village in Asterix and Obelix (and in this particular case, resistance was powerful, like it was in Spain in 1936 or France in 1939) there is a small pocket of individuals who refuse to change, namely you guys, and girls, the Councillors in Enfield. I actually am not scared to call you Fascists and Nazis. I will not be bullied into submission @ Nesil Chaliskan, Leader of Enfield Council. But you notice it, right? You are the minority now (though I am sure you think you are all powerful, right?).

I explain myself, though I doubt that the people who will read this will understand, so please be aware that I am also sending this to my LinkedIn network, made of over 400 people, including , , Sadiq Khan and Boris Johnson (whom I asked to sign the petition) international politicians (from Joe Biden and Barack Obama to Nahindra Modi, the Prime Minister of India, to the Kabul mayor, Zefira Ghadafi, and the NZ Prime Minister) broadcasters (UK: Nick Ferrari and US: Lewis Howes - who is helping me with my autism issues, as Enfield Council just turned me down – please refer to Merle at IAT Chase Farm, the rudest counsellor I have ever come across - as seen in Ellen De Generes show), of course, Netflix producers as I am currently writing a book I am hoping to have published (make no mistake, you are in it), fellow environment activists worldwide, lawyers, artists and fellow autists. Oh, and of course, journalist from the Guardian, to Private Eye as well as the Enfield Dispatch (to follow on the double spread last month). Why am I doing this? Because you cannot be trusted with the information I am about to give you.

Why I am talking about autism? Because in a changing world, we have figured out the good impact green spaces have on Mental Health. Not only I have been diagnosed during my quarantine, I have been told I could not go out to buy myself food for 10 days.

Honestly, do you really think that this is the way to treat your residents? Where is the respect?

I had to tell those poor guys/dolls who work for the NHS Track And Trace programme, commissioned by the Home Office that what I was about to say was not directed at them, but at the current Government. So I am telling you the same thing:

As you may be aware, Enfield Council voted to have 6,000 homes built on the Green Belt (Vicarage Farm and Crews Hill) as well as on the sites of our vibrant town centre, which has survived two lockdowns.

I spoke with a few business owners, who told me that Enfield Council had also retained their grants for months, while other boroughs' businesses were already benefitting from theirs.

I am appalled and disgusted by this borough council's policies: I am a life-long labour supporter, but cannot accept the councillors sitting in Enfield are doing a good job, standing for the people.

1. By removing our shopping centre, you will force people who do not have a car to take public transport and shop somewhere else
2. By removing it, you will allow thousands of people to lose their jobs, and make Enfield Town gentrified and sterile
3. By removing our Green Belt (the reason the councillors gave was if East Enfield cannot have a green belt, why should West Enfield have? – a completely idiotic reasoning, as East Enfieldians benefit from the Green Belt too!), we are taking away a formidable asset unique to our borough, and unique to London. Where else in the world is there a capital city with so many green spaces?

Finally, I want to tell you that I am a French citizen, have lived in London for 27 years, and despite Brexit and Covid, am still in love and passionate about what happens to London. Hence why I voted for you because I think you have been the best mayor we have had in a long while.



By now, you must be familiar with my name, with the amount of comments/replies I have inundated Sadiq Khan's profile on LinkedIn.

You should know that my autism and bipolar disorders mean that I will not rest until I get an answer.

In the meantime, I have received an email from Nesil Chaliskan, the leader of Enfield Council, and this is what I am going to say to Sadiq Khan (for whom I have voted, and for which I have congratulated him) in response to the letter she sent me regarding the plan to build on the Green Belt.

Dear Sadiq,

As her leader, I think you should be aware of what Nesil Chaliskan, the Leader of Enfield Council is doing so that you have an understanding of:

1. How she communicates to her constituents
2. What I am planning to do in response to that.

With my best regards, and again, well done for having the best social media team I have come across for a long time, and I work for Accenture, so that is really a compliment. Also, you should know that I know that the NHS uses Accenture for their apps, so well done us really!
Have a great weekend,

Isabelle Valentin (the French lady who has lived in London for 27 years, has survived the 7/7 bombings, the financial crisis, covid and many other things, and still despite all of this, still thinks London is the best city in the world).

And finally, the reply to Nesil Chaliskan, Leader of Enfield Council.

Dear Nesil,
I am delighted you took the trouble and time to get in touch with me.
I will be at one of the consultations, , not sure which one yet.
□

I hope you and your colleagues will be prepared to answer questions on the following: alternative sites, financing of the project (I am checking Comer on companies house).

You should know that beside being a communications professional, and having many contacts due to my very proactive approach to Social Media, I have worked for the investment banking and asset/wealth management industries for the largest international financial institutions such as JPMorgan and UBS for 18 years.

What you need to know as well is that I use Enfield IAT, the mental health service based at Chase Farm, as I am bipolar and autistic so I will write an essay on the following (to be published in the Guardian): the benefits of green spaces on mental health and where does the money to fund the housing projects of Enfield of the Green Belt come from. Journalists and other think tanks know about this.



Finally, I am IMPLORING YOU to give up on building on the Green Belt. The draft Enfield Local Plan, which is out for public consultation, sets out the parameters for future development proposals in the area for the next 15 years. **Consultation and engagement with the Local community is an essential part of the preparation of Enfield's Local**

Plan, so it is important that you make our views known to the council when presented with that opportunity in the coming weeks.

The Mayor expects Enfield's Local Plan to align with the policies in the London Plan, please refer to speech he gave at the London Assembly. **All planning applications to comply with the London Plan, in terms of the continued protection of the London's Green Belt.**

Alternatives are: brownfield sites, which are not listed in the proposal. You do what you are paid to do and investigate that.

LEAVE THE GREEN BELT ALONE



With my best regards,