Dear Sir/Madam,

I am the vicar of St Paul's Church, Hadley Wood for the past 13 years. I am also a trustee of the Hadley Wood Association and a governor of Hadley Wood Primary School. We appreciate the green open spaces of the community along with the protection of the Green Belt, which protects the green spaces. I object to the proposed site allocation as it an inappropriate development for the following reasons.

1. Green Belt

The Green Belt must be protected and conserved in this North West part of Enfield where is provides a natural separation between Barnet, Potters Bar, and Hadley Wood, helping air quality and biodiversity within the borough. To destroy the Green Belt is against the constitutional law of our nation which has protect the Green Belt. In the year when we are hosting the COP26 (UN climate change conference) it can not be right to plan to destroy this Green Belt, directly contrary to all green and climate change policies. We should be protecting and conserving our remaining green spaces and this plan totally goes against the Green Belt protection and the moral majority of this nation to protect our environment.

2. Destruction of unique heritage

The meadows in Hadley Wood that are being threatened are not just any old field as they are part of the established Green Belt in a single area of special character across three boroughs. They are in the middle of a green corridor from Barnet through to the farms north and east of Hadley Wood, providing visual harmony for many residents, walkers and cyclists. They are set within two Conservation Areas and the loss to a housing estate would greatly harm the heritage value of both Hadley Wood and Monken Hadley. This area is the head valley of a main Enfield river which is liable to floods and needs to keep its riverside flood spaces. The Battle of Barnet took place in and around these meadows which would take away any opportunity for the heritage of this land to be explored in the future.

3. Unnecessary and wrong

It is not right to plan for certain and irretrievable environmental loss of the special meadows for extra housing to be built more than 10 years later based upon uncertain projections for 25,000 dwellings needed in over 20 years time. In contrast other brownfield sites will become available over 10 and 20 years in the Enfield which are currently owned by the council. It does not make sense to use Green Belt land for building when there is plenty of brownfield land and offices that will become available over time with more people working from home and changing working patterns.

4. Not sustainable development

Hadley Wood is not able to sustain a new housing estate. The only primary school is already full with a long waiting list. There are few services, and only a small parade of shops near the station. The trains are for London commuters and there is no connection to the rest of Enfield. The only local bus from the station provides a limited morning only service into Barnet and not into Enfield. There would be an increase of car journeys by

new residents which would add to traffic pollution, safety, congestion and would be contrary to policies for cycling, walking and using public transport for communing. A single access road would be insufficient which would cause congestion and increasing pollution to the area.

5. Flawed site selection

The site should not be used for building 160 dwellings as it is sloping land that will impact upon the adjacent green belt along with the Hadley Wood Conservation Area. It would cause substantial harm in the long run to these neighbouring areas. The lower part of the site has been subject to considerable flooding from the river which will will increase the speed of any flood water run-off due to new roads, houses, drives, and paths. It would effect other properties further down the river from the development increasing their risk of flooding and damage to existing properties.

Please remove this proposed site allocation form the next edition of the Local plan and retain the Green Belt status of this land.