

Dear Enfield Council,

Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to object to this very important issue and proposal. I am an Enfield resident, and I am writing to strongly object to Enfield council's proposal to build on the Greenbelt in our borough as outlined in the draft local plan reg 18. I urge you not to proceed with this option. The proposals I predominantly object to are (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11) (Policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10) ;(SA45, page 364) ;(SA52 page 372) ;(SA54, page 374) ;(SA62 page 383 & SP CL4 pages 277-279).

Although I appreciate the need for council housing in the borough and some of the mixed-use options for housing suggested in the plan, not on Greenbelt land, may indeed work well if designed appropriately to serve the community. I do not agree with building on the Greenbelt land. This exists for all of Enfield's residents and is essential in this time of climate change and for residents' health and wellbeing. All the above proposals are part of historic Enfield Chase have played an important part of the development of Enfield. Any deletion of this would cause permanent damage to the character and future of Enfield. Further to this, at a time where local food production is a cherished resource the farmland earmarked for development could be used for growing and a farm; as the land was previously used for before the current owners. This could be a valuable resource and asset for Enfield and with the support from the local community. Redesignating the land back to working farmland could be a viable option with suitable stakeholders sourced.

I would like to outline further benefits to the community of the section of Greenbelt. notably between Hadley rd. Enfield and Trentwood side Enfield. (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11) The Greenbelt has provided my family and numerous other families and individuals with support before and during the recent COVID19 period. I have witnessed and spoken to people from all areas of the borough, walk on the footpaths in the fields, especially those from urban communities of Enfield without green fields near their own homes. Infact, walking on the Greenbelt in Enfield is one of the few recreations' families from low-income families from all over the borough can enjoy free of charge. This was especially relevant during the lockdown period enabling young and old to improve mental and physical health, one of the main reasons Greenbelt enriches our lives and is vital for our communities. Myself, my family, and friends from all areas of the borough walk on this land daily and the footpaths are popular routes used frequently and daily by many.

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Living near a busy and polluted main road, notably Enfield Road, we can balance this disadvantage with the Greenbelt nearby. I believe without this the mental and physical health of all our community would suffer greatly. It would make the walk to school for our children even more dangerous and polluted than it is already. At a time when Enfield is supposedly

proud of the tree planting schemes and the wonderful protected green spaces, I cannot understand why the choice would be to build on it, destroying the richness of the borough never to be replaced. Planting new trees and promoting this cannot substitute ancient woodland and countryside and the wildlife who rely on this.

I understand there are proven brownfield sites that can provide space for the much-needed new homes and there is no need to make such a destructive choice. The wildlife we witness on this land includes sky larks, rare birds of prey, bats, rare butterflies, muntjac deer, protected trees and the merryhills brook. (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11). I would further like to outline the following points:

1. Building on the Greenbelt (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11); is not the best solution to Enfield's housing needs and preferable alternative options should be built on such as brownfield sites.

2. The draft local plan is contrary to the London Plan and the Mayor's vision for London also. This area is already polluted and an important road for the hospital access. The local infrastructure surrounding the plan (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11) cannot support the proposed development.

3. By going ahead with the plan, councillors are letting down their constituents. There is a petition showing support for the Greenbelt in Enfield which has reached over 30,000 supporters and growing daily, this shows the level of local support that we also expect you to support with us. I haven't encountered any residents who agree with the proposals. [Petition · PROTECT the Green Belt and Open Spaces in Enfield · Change.org](#)

4. We trust you as our local council to work for us the constituents. You as residents of the borough are part of our community and surely cannot want this for your families and future generations.

5. The Greenbelt is widely used by Enfield residents from all areas of the borough providing improvement to physical and mental health especially those from Enfield's urban communities without the Greenbelt nearby and is accessible for all via the cycle lanes and bus routes. Childhood asthma rates and the decline of mental health in our country due to recent events makes this even more crucial to the community. (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11).

6. At a time when climate change is top of the political agenda, for global health we need the Greenbelt more than ever including flood relief in the local area (Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11). Surely this is not the time to destroy this valuable resource and add to the dangers of climate change.

The council has a duty of care in accordance with the London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and any intentions to release parts of it should be taken out of the local plan. Please do the right thing and stop the plans to build on Enfield's Green belt not only for now but for our children's future and generations to come. Once it is gone, gone forever.

Yours faithfully,