
Dear Sirs,

Draft Local Plan - Site SA45 - Land between Camlet Way and Crescent West, Hadley Wood

Having been visiting relatives (Mr & Mrs Malde, 69 Camlet Way) in the Hadley Wood area for almost 20 years' I was surprised and disappointed to discover the plans to develop this area which is part of the Green Belt.

I've always thought the Green Belt are permanent areas separating towns and stopping urban sprawl.

I would like to register my objection to this development site in the strongest possible terms for the reasons below;

Destroys a valued part of the Green Belt

The most recent Characterisation Study undertaken by Enfield Council refers to the area as “a special area of landscape character which is a major asset for the borough. It is of both landscape and historic significance”; and “The existing Green Belt boundary should be retained and protected, and future development and land use changes resisted”. Why then has it chosen to destroy a valued part of our Green Belt.

Makes a significant contribution to the purposes and openness of the Green Belt

The Hadley Wood Heritage and Character Assessment notes that the site provides “important views” and the landscape “acts as a buffer separating Hadley Wood from other urban areas”. No account has been taken of the fact that the site forms part of the Hornbeam Hills Area of Special Character. It also ignores the fact that the area has significant historic value as it was where the Battle of Barnet took place in the 15th Century.

Wildlife and biodiversity would be harmed

Building over 11ha of fields for 160 homes is an inefficient use of valuable Green Belt land that serves an important purpose, and contradicts Enfield's green policies and the declaration by the Council of a Climate

Emergency. The ecology of this unique area of rough grazing and wildlife habitat, a relic of the landscape of Enfield Chase, should be protected.