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Dear Enfield Council,

Me and my family have recently moved into Lancaster Avenue in Hadley Wood. We were rather surprised at the news that the council feel that it is appropriate to build 160 new houses on greenbelt land.

The greenbelt must be conserved. It is called the greenbelt for a reason and the fact that Enfield Council feel it appropriate to concrete over it in the next 10 years is rather upsetting. The message it sends to our children is so very wrong and despite your leaflets saying otherwise is indefensible.

Biodiversity in urban areas needs protecting. The increasing number of reports showing the health implications of poor air quality should also serve as a stark reminder that we should be finding ways to protect our lungs (i.e. the greenbelt) and not build over it.

It also feels to me that the council's criteria for selecting this land could well be flawed. What due diligence has been done on the site and its ultimate need compared with other potential sites with less sensitive characteristics. How hard has the council really worked to consider the need or the alternatives against a risk matrix.

We are in the middle of a structural change in our society brought on by Brexit, the pandemic and technological advances. Many European workers are leaving the UK as a result of Brexit and the new move to home working meaning an increasing proportion of London based workers are now moving or considering moving out of the Greater London area to other geographic regions of the UK for a better quality of life. Therefore, the basis on which Enfield council believe a greenfield piece of land is required over the next 10 years to provide 160 houses seems questionable. In addition, local travel links are poor and putting more pressure on them with 160 houses can't be the answer. The local plan appears to make no provision for genuine improvement in services. Also what consideration has been given to provision of internet services where speeds in Hadley Wood are below 15mbps, some rural communities now have better internet access. My telephone company could not provide me internet because they didn't have enough room at the local exchange - again suggesting that the infrastructure is not set up for more housing in general.

Finally, Hadley Wood has a vibrant community and special character that must be protected. It's the reason moved here. The meadows that you want to pave over are part of the established greenbelt in a single Area of Special Character and support two conservation areas. Their loss to more housing would greatly impact on the character of Hadley Wood and Monken Hadley.

Please help me build some faith with Enfield Council and make the right decision. Please remove Site SA45 – Land between Camlet Way and Crescent West, Hadley Wood from the local plan and present a more considered assessment of need and a more sustainable approach to increased housing and its location.

Please help to set help a good example to our children.

Kind regards,