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I have lived in Hadley Wood for 28 years and am a member of the Hadley Wood Association. I moved here for reasons which included the surrounding Green Belt and the quality of the environment. I object strongly to this proposal to build 160 new houses for the following reasons.

1. The Green Belt is a local and national precious resource and should not be destroyed for reasons of expediency, profit and short-sighted gain. Once built on it will be gone forever. Climate change is a real danger that needs urgent attention. Building on this scale goes against everything we are being asked to do to reverse this potential disaster.
2. We will have unused office space due to changing work patterns resulting from COVID, as well as other brownfield resources to use. These should be the priority for development rather than the irrevocable destruction of a precious part of the environment.
3. Hadley Wood has seen a huge increase in housing stock over the years. Single dwelling houses have been and are being demolished to provide dwellings with multiple occupancy. There has been no corresponding development of required additional infrastructure and services to account for this, let alone for the proposed population increase in this plan. There is no additional capacity in the local primary school and no nearby secondary provision. Transport links are in reality very limited. Trains run in and out of London but not across boroughs. The local bus service is so limited as to be of no use. This again contravenes any support in addressing the issue of climate change. There will be multiple journeys by car for people to get to work, school and shops.
4. NHS Health infrastructure is non-existent. Any visit for a Primary Care, hospital consultation or dental consultation requires car usage. The Destruction of Green Belt land also removes the valuable health care benefit of walking in the Green Belt.
5. In addition to greater vehicle use, the environment would be affected by more ground being covered by buildings. The meadows provide oxygen and drainage. The proposal to build near Monken Mead Brook could increase water flow with consequences for the station and local roads such as Parkgate where there is a history of flooding. Reduced surface absorption due to buildings rather than fields would also affect areas downstream of the Hadley Wood water catchment area.
6. For all the above reasons these proposals do not represent sustainable development. Rather, they are an opportunistic attempt to sell land and would detract from sustainable development in appropriate locations which could meet genuine housing need.

Taking all these factors into consideration can you please remove this proposed site allocation

from the next edition of the Local Plan and retain the green belt status for the land.