
Dear Sirs,

My son and his family have just moved to Hadley Wood, arriving in June this year. They are members of the Hadley Wood Association and are also members of a number of local clubs. They moved to the area largely because of the green space at the end of their garden and all the other green areas within Hadley Wood. The Green Belt was a particular attraction, I was delighted that my grandchildren would be in close proximity to the countryside and all the benefits that brings. They would be surrounded by greenspace, good for their health and mental well being.

I therefore object to the proposed site allocation, which would allow the development of 160 homes on Green Belt land.

In particular our objection is due to the following:

1) Plan fails to develop/prioritise all brownfield sites. There is no prioritisation of brownfield sites and, for example, only part of Meridian Water's capacity is included in the 20 year plan. Instead, the easy option of building on a Green Belt site with poor local connections and amenities has been chosen. There are so many unused buildings in our high streets and surrounding areas, surely there are more sustainable alternatives that should be considered before destroying a beautiful area of green belt which is of great benefit for the environment in such worrying times of climate change.

2) Wildlife and biodiversity would be harmed. Building over 11ha of fields for 160 homes is an inefficient use of valuable 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. As soon as they moved to the house they noticed a colony of bees in the garden, the bees arrived of their own accord and were an indication that the surrounding area was a rich habitat for wildlife.

3) Too small for infrastructure investment. 160 new homes do not warrant the investment needed to increase schools, healthcare services, shops, leisure facilities. There is very little in terms of infrastructure in the immediate vicinity and much investment would be needed to sustain additional residents. I live in neighbouring Potters Bar, there will be a significant impact on our local services which are already at breaking point.

