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To whom it may concern,

I wish to register my objection to Enfield Council's draft local plan.

I regularly use the footpath along the fields of vicarage farm from Trentwood Side into Trent Park. It is a real respite from the heavy traffic along Enfield Road and a vital breathing space nature and people living within Enfield and London. It is habitat to many now rare wildlife species and any development however 'sensitive' to its environmental impact will these species see disappear forever. Skylark and Yellow hammers use it as important nesting grounds and I have also encountered adders, muntjac deer and pine-martens on my walks.

The plan to change the use of this lands threatens the Green Belt and will destroy much needed green space close to the capital. The development of the site will bring further traffic congestion to an area that at times is already faced with gridlock. Not only is this development unwanted it is also unnecessary as it will not address the need for local and affordable houses as the majority of the homes proposed are well beyond the means of the majority of local residents. These executive homes will only be attractive to people selling up in central London and moving out to a more affordable area to them. While their properties are most likely be bought up by foreign investors, creating an even bigger issue in the housing market. While I understand the need to build new homes, I disagree that Greenbelt land should be used for new homes. There are plenty of brownfield sites in Enfield which can be reused and recycled – as small example is a parcel of land on Enfield Road close to Bincote Road which has been left unused for many years. Much better to fill in homes where there is existing infrastructure than concreting over green fields. I don't think that these sites have been properly considered. I can see how powerful and cash-rich developers could pose a strong argument for the development of 'attractive' and expensive houses on the green belt, but this is a short-sighted approach and I think it is our responsibility as good citizens to preserve the greenbelt for future generations. Changing the use from agricultural land to residential land will not tackle the affordable housing crisis nor the climate emergency, and needs to be dramatically rethought.

So in summary I firmly object to building on the agricultural land on Vicarage Farm now or in the future.

With kind regards,

## **STAGHILL**

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