
To whom it may concern:

I have lived in Hadley Wood for 14 years and am a member of the Hadley Wood Association and Hadley Wood Tennis Club. As a child I also attended the local nursery when I was younger so therefore the neighbourhood means a lot to me.

I am an 18 year old and part of why I love living in Hadley Wood is because of all its green spaces and amazing views of the countryside, which I consider to be part of the charm and character of Hadley Wood.

Therefore, I strongly object to the proposed site allocation, allowing the development of 160 homes on the Green Belt, for the following reasons:

1. ***SAVE OUR GREEN BELT:*** The Green Belt must be protected and conserved as it serves a vital purpose such as separating Barnet and Potters Bar, helping air quality in the neighbourhood and allowing nature to flourish. It cannot be right to plan to destroy this Green Belt, which is in direct contrast to all the new green and climate change policies, which as evidenced by recent events is more vital now more than ever. We should therefore be conserving our remaining green spaces for now and future generations.
2. ***PLAN WILL DESTROY OUR UNIQUE HERITAGE LANDSCAPE:*** The Hadley Wood meadows under threat by this plan are unique and not just some fields in the middle of nowhere. They are part of the established green belt in a single Area of Special Character across 3 boroughs. They are in the middle of a green corridor from Barnet through to the farms north and east of Hadley Wood, providing amazing views for many walkers, runners and cyclists. They are the setting for 2 Conservative Areas and their loss to a housing estate would greatly harm the heritage value of both Hadley Wood and Monken Hadley. This is the head valley of a main Enfield river which is liable to flooding and therefore needs to keep the riverside flood spaces.
3. ***UNNECESSARY AND WRONG:*** It cannot be right to plan for the certain and irreversible environmental loss of these special meadows for a few extra houses to be built more than 10 years later based on uncertain projections for 25,000 houses needed over 20 years. They may never be needed. Other brownfield sites will become available over this time, including many owned by the council. Furthermore, with the current climate change situation, how on earth does building more houses and getting rid of green spaces in neighbourhoods help with this- it seems in direct contrast to new and needed environmental policies.
4. ***NOT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:*** Hadley Wood is not a suitable location for a new housing estate. The only primary school is already full with a long waiting list. There are few services and only a small parade near the station. The trains are for London commuters, only come every 30 minutes and do not connect us with the borough, with limited spaces for parking. The bus at the station only provides a limited daytime service to Barnet and not the borough. Car journeys by new residents will be essential, adding to the traffic and air pollution and congestion which contrasts with new policies for cycling and walking and the whole rationale for being near the station.

5. ***FLAWED SITE SELECTION:*** The site should not be allocated for 160 houses. It is sloping and sensitive site adjacent to the neighbouring green belt, as well as in the setting of Hadley Wood Conservation Area. It would causes substantial harm. The lower part of the site is in a flood area for the river and will be highly affected by surface water run-off issues within the site and downstream within Hadley Wood, and therefore cannot be sustainable.

After consideration of all these issues, please can you remove this proposed site allocation from the next edition of the Local Plan and retain the green belt status for the land.