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I would like to add my voice to the growing number of objections locally to draft policy DM BG16 in the Draft Enfield Local Plan.

This allocates Firs Farm Wetlands (Site ID SA59) as a site for burial and/or crematorium use.

I know many residents are saddened, disturbed and concerned by this proposal for several reasons. Firs Farm Wetlands has become a beloved focal point for the local community (especially during the past 18 months, when being outdoors in green spaces has proven invaluable to mental health and well being).

What's more, I believe the policy goes against many of the ideals that the Draft Plan is supposed to promote.

Firs Farm wetlands is an essential community resource, **vital to the health and well-being** of the local people in many ways.

The draft Policy **directly contradicts** Strategic Policy SP CL4 in the draft Local Plan. This identifies Firs Farm as facilitating and contributing towards developing sport and leisure facilities in Enfield.

The proposal will significantly affect the local Site of Interest for Nature Conservation, and **reduce the biodiversity** and nature conservation interest of Firs Farm wetlands, **contrary to several other policies** in the draft Local Plan.

The proposal will **reduce the effectiveness of the flood alleviation** provided by Firs Farm wetlands, which Enfield Council has spent more than £1 million to provide.

The proposal will **adversely affect the environment and local traffic**, and this has not been properly considered in the Integrated Impact Assessment of the draft Local Plan.

The policy introduces uncertainty into the future use of Firs Farm wetlands that jeopardises funding for projects secured by local community groups (e.g. from Thames Water) that have been endorsed and supported by Enfield Council.

I urge the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm wetlands from Policy SP CL4.

