
The below are my objections to the councils draft plan.

As a summary I am totaly against the building of housing on and thus subsequent reduction of the green belt, farm land, the alteration of the character of Crews Hill and the gradual erosion of the "village feel" of certain parts of Enfield.

I am sure many other objectors will feel the same as me, in that they have chosen to reside were they do because of the characteristics of the area.

The proposals in the draft plan will dramatically and irreversibly alter all the benefits of the said characteristics we currently enjoying.

1. I object to the following Policies and Site Allocations in the Plan: • SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10; Crews Hill Proposed housing and other developments. • SP PL10, pages 80-87, and Concept Plan Figure 3.11; Chase Park (Land to the west of Trent Country Park). Proposed housing. • SA45: page 364; Land Between Camlet Way and Crescent Way, Hadley Wood Proposed housing. – all of which propose removing Green Belt protections from these areas for the purposes of erecting houses and establishing industrial sites. These sites in the Green Belt are all part of the historic area of Enfield Chase, which has played an important role in the development of Enfield and is unique in the southeast. The Chase is an essential part of the character of Enfield Borough and is a rare and valuable landscape and environmentally green asset. To lose it or even mar it through housing development (especially high density and/or high rise construction) would permanently harm the Green Belt, and the distinctive character of the borough, leaving London poorer as a whole. I strongly dispute the basis on which the decision to build houses on these Green Belt areas has been made. The Plan presents options for the number of houses required in the Borough (2.4.4 p25, Table 2.2 p26, Table 8,3 p188), but I could not find any obvious place in the text that explains the basis or justification for the numbers quoted. And based on the chosen figure of 25,000 new homes over the 20 year period from 2019 to 20391, there is a blanket, unjustified assumption in the Plan that over 6,000 of these homes must be built on the Green Belt, and that there is no alternative to this way forward. Yet the independently produced, very professionally undertaken and documented survey of Enfield's housing needs "Space to Build"³, published and sent to the Council in 2019, identifies (and lists in great detail) enough Previously Developed Land (PDL) to accommodate Enfield's housing needs. The survey has identified enough space to build at least 37,000 homes on sites that are currently inefficiently used (see page 3 of the survey document³). This is well within the 25,000 figure over 20 years that is assumed in the Plan. Therefore the intention to build houses extensively on Enfield's Green Belt is without firm, properly justified foundation; in short, the Council has not done its homework properly. The Plan does not demonstrate that the Council has adequately investigated all available brownfield sites, and other options for addressing the Borough's housing needs.

Building houses and locating new industrial sites on the Green Belt should be the very last consideration in providing these resources within the Borough when all other options have been exhausted, not the default “easy” approach to make up for the Council’s previous shortcomings in addressing these issues. The Council has stated that Enfield’s population will grow by 50,000 people by 2039². But this population projection is at best an educated guesstimate and could very well be a big over-estimate; it does not reflect the latest estimates from the Office of National Statistics and does not account uncertainties such as changing migration patterns and the impact of Covid-19 on where people chose to live in future. It could well be a big over-estimate, and the problem with this is that taking a substantial portion of the Borough’s land out of the Green Belt in anticipation of a need based on an overestimate, unnecessarily makes it easier for third parties to develop on the land purely for commercial gain at the expense of the environment. Why sacrifice the Green Belt for a guess? It would be better to wait for the 2021 Census results to become available in 2022 and use them to get a more accurate handle on the Borough’s projected population growth. Ref1 Figure quoted in the Enfield Council newsletter “Future Enfield” dated Summer 2021, and also stated as the preferred option C (Medium Growth) in the table for Strategic Policy SP H1 on page 190 of the Plan. Ref2 Figure quoted in the Enfield Council newsletter “Future Enfield” dated Summer 2021, Ref3 “Space to Build”, available at https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ad_84_space_to_build_enfield_report_final.pdf)