
I am writing to register my opposition to the Draft Local Plan.

Crematorium Proposals

Of particular concern are the Crematorium proposals for Firs Farm Wetlands and Church Street recreation ground for the following reasons:

Loss of Amenity

Quite apart from the access problems for both sites and the potential issues of air pollution in a residential area, the Church Street site backs onto Latymer school and contains an historic row of 50 or so mature horse chestnut trees. Development of the Firs Farm Recreation Ground would compromise the wetlands site and place a question mark over its long-term future. Both sites are heavily used by residents for recreation and loss of either would be significant blow. Needless to say, putting a large crematorium on either site would also be an unwelcome development for local residents.

Evidence of Need

The evidence of need for a new crematorium has not been demonstrated in the Local Plan. Whilst the local plan cites shortage of burial spaces, because of a rise in preference for burial, there is little consideration of the need for more cremation capacity—especially when Enfield already has a large crematorium owned and operated by Haringey Council.

To sum up I believe that a new Crematorium is not needed and most definitely should not be built on either Firs Farm Wetlands or Church Street Recreation Ground.

Green Belt Development

I would like to object to proposals to build for residential development in Enfield's Green Belt whilst also reducing the number of homes to be built on Meridian Water.

Enfield's Green Belt acts as a vital Green Lung for Enfield and London as a whole. It provides natural habitats for Wildlife and amenity space for

Enfield Residents to take part in Exercise such as Dog Walking, Running, Cycling and particularly Golf.

The Garden Centres of Crews Hill provide employment to local residents and are an source for Gardening Products that cannot be easily founded elsewhere.

The Green Belt also has very poor Public Transport. Bus Services are few and coverage of routes is not comprehensive. Crews Hill Railway Station has only a 30 minute service and many trains do not stop there. The Hertford Loop railway line is a strategic freight line and therefore opportunities to expand passenger services are limited. Therefore these developments if built would become Car dependent suburbs. This would add to the Boroughs already significant Air Pollution and Traffic Congestion.

By contrast if more Homes were developed at Meridian Water, they would benefit from a recently built four platform rail station that has direct links London Liverpool Street in the City of London and to Stratford Station an increasingly important rail interchange. Stratford is currently served by two London Underground lines, London Overground, Mainline Railway services, two branches of the Docklands Light Railway, and this will soon be joined by the Elizabeth Line. Meridian Water Station is also only two stops from Tottenham Hale which is served by the Victoria Line, Stansted Airport Express and trains to Cambridge. There is also a long term aspiration to build Crossrail 2 that would run alongside the Lea Valley Mainline and serve local stations such as Meridian Water and link them directly to Central London terminal Stations King's Cross, St. Pancras, Victoria and Euston in addition to London's West End. The transport options alone demonstrate how extra homes at Meridian Water should be pursued instead of removing land from the Green Belt.

I therefore believe the Green Belt development proposals should be dropped from the Local Plan.

Redevelopment of Supermarket Sites

At this point I would like to declare an interest as a employee of Sainsbury's at Crown Road in Enfield.

The local plan proposes removing the Supermarket from both this site

and Sainsbury's in Winchmore Hill to be replaced by residential developments. No replacement Food retailer would be provided at these sites.

This would threaten continued employment for Supermarket workers like myself and remove choice as to how Enfield residents buy their groceries and other goods. If these sites are used then I believe at the very least they should be mixed use retail and residential.

That concludes my representation.