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I object 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 oppose this policy for the following reasons:-

1. Firs Farm is a vitally important community resource, essential to the health and well-being of the local people in many ways.
2. 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.
3. 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 local plan.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. The policy introduces uncertainty into the future use of Firs Farm wetlands that jeopardises funding for projects secured by local community group (e.g. from Thames Water) that have been endorsed by Enfield Council.
7. As a local resident and having spent the last 18+ months working from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Firs Farm Wetlands has enabled me to take regular daily walks and exercise as there are no other local parks or green space within close proximity. Taking this away from myself and a huge number of other residents who are also moving to a new hybrid way of working, I feel will have a major impact on people's mental well-being.

I call on the council to remove all reference to Firs Farm wetlands from Policy SP CL4.