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I am writing separately about this part of the Draft Local Plan for Enfield because the proposal for a crematorium on the Firs Farm Wetlands site should not be included in the plan at all.

I oppose this proposal for a Crematorium for this site, because

- 1) We already have 2 Crematoria in Enfield, along the Cambridge Road and in New Southgate, which cater for all ethnic groups according to their customs. There has been no problem arranging cremations in either facility and there is no need for and extra two crematoria proposed in Firs Farm Wetlands or along the Cambridge Road on the Recreation Ground adjacent to Latymer School. Edmonton cemetery has recently been expanded so there is more capacity for burials.
- 2) The left hand of Enfield Council doesn't know what the right hand is doing! Enfield Council supported the Firs Farm Wetlands Group's application to Sports England for a grant to for new changing rooms on the actual site being proposed for the Crematorium, so Enfield Council knew this site was being enhanced by outside funding. Sports England have paid the money to provide these changing rooms and enhance the sports facilities there and Enfield Council should therefore withdraw the proposal to build on this piece of land.
- 3) The policy endangers future funding for projects developed by local community groups e.g from Thames Water, which have already been endorsed by Enfield Council and future use of the Wetlands will be uncertain.
- 4) Firs Farm is a wonderful open space used by people for their health and well being. Enfield Council's assertion that it wants to improve the health of local people by enabling exercise as a means of reducing obesity is questionable or it would not propose building on this recreational land.
- 5) The draft policy contradicts Strategic Policy SP CL4 in the Local Plan, which highlights the Firs Farm Wetlands area as facilitating and contributing towards the development of of sport and leisure facilities in Enfield.
- 6) Firs Farm Wetlands is a local Site of Interest for Nature Conservation and the proposal will reduce the biodiversity and nature conservation interest of the wetlands, which is contrary to several other policies in the draft plan.
- 7) Enfield Council has spent over £1 million on a flood alleviation scheme at Firs Farm Open space and if this proposal goes ahead it will reduce the effectiveness of the flood scheme.
- 8) The impact of increased traffic on the local area as a result of the siting of a Crematorium has not been considered or assessed, particularly in regard to the traffic calming measures already in place in Firs lane.