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I have lived in Hadley Wood for 2 years but I have known the Hadley Wood area all my life. The existence of all the green spaces within Hadley Wood and the surrounding Green Belt which protects the special character of the area, persuaded my wife and I to spend the latter part of our retirement years in the area.

I therefore object to the proposed site allocation within the Draft Local Plan, which would allow the development of 160 houses on Green Belt land.

Sustainability is one of the most important considerations for proposed developments. This site is not sustainable because it has poor transport links, limited local amenities, no local GP, no post office, no secondary school, an oversubscribed primary school and virtually no local employment so the scheme would be wholly dependent on cars.

The existing foul and surface water infrastructure has not kept pace with past development and furthermore parts of the site are in Flood Zone 3 and because of the insufficient local sewers and flood defences there is frequent flooding across Hadlet Wood.

Other considerations which render the allocation of this site untenable are:

A. The Council's recent Characterisation Study states:

1. The area is a special area of landscape character which is a major asset to the borough
2. The existing Green Belt boundary should be retained and protected and future development and land use changes resisted.

B. There is no prioritisation of brownfield sites so the easy option of building on a Green Belt site with poor local amenities has been chosen.