
Official

Objection to Draft Local Plan *remove all reference to FirsFarm Wetlands form Policy SP CL4*

Is this proposal for a Crematorium on the Wetlands stated in the policy SP CL4 legal? in particular not being built within 200 yards of a dwelling in an area which is used for many sports including tennis and football. There are tennis courts in situ recently built in 2020 after being moved from the A10. The proposed Crematorium is to take up the space of three football pitches!! The policy states 200 yards away from a dwelling, yet people will be on the site playing sports and walking on the site well within 20 yards. The Wetlands was voted an area of excellence for Sports –therefore why would Enfield build a crematorium there and ruin this?. This proposal will seriously affect the health and wellbeing of the public that use the Wetlands. The Wetlands has improved the quality of life of so many and subsequently reduces the reliance on our health service. Having the facility has given the residents in all wards and beyond a beautiful place to walk or just sit and enjoy.

The path is a mile long and this has become an established walk for many with lots of people walking and running this route. People come from miles away to do this route as it is on a flat and the path accessible. Children can now cycle safely all around this route. If the proposed Crematorium is to go ahead, we will lose our circular path. The Wetlands has improved so many residents lives physically and psychologically. Old people and disabled people frequent the area daily having the opportunity to speak to others whereas without the facility will be isolated.

Moreover there are two schools in direct vicinity of the proposed crematoriums a junior school Firs Farm and a senior school Winchmore. Surely, we cannot allow ashes to be in the air of where these children are playing and sitting in classrooms breathing in these fumes. The ground is at risk of contamination because of the Ashes and where do you propose to adequately dispose of these ashes?

The Blue Green strategy policy has been promoted by Enfield and implemented in 2020; this Crematorium proposal is a total 360 degree turnaround on this policy, having no regard for public health or wildlife that is noted in Chapter 4 'Understanding the need for open space and play space'.

In 2019 Enfield was the 74th most deprived Local Authority in England, the 12th most deprived area in London. 8.1% of its residents have Diabetes, higher than the London and national average of 6.5%. It is the 11th highest in London for Asthma sufferers with a prevalence of 4.8%. 66.8% of residents are obese, with 28% of reception children obese the 3rd highest in London.

The level of footfall/usage in the Wetlands shows it is promoting Sports England in 2019 Active Lives campaign . Moreover, the Wetlands is a SINC site (site of important nature conservation) which we want to continue and is used by schools for ecological projects. If this plan goes ahead this will be lost, local schools will have to go elsewhere (out of Brough) for this type of facility.

The council with this proposal is contradicting their plan to protect open spaces (P.128. of SPCL4 Green resilient fund –grow back greener encouraging improvements and developments of Green space. In Enfield local Borough council burial space need and provision study paragraph 146 contradicts again when it states '*Preserve openness and not to conflict with the purposes of land within it eg changes in use of land for sports*'

Everyone in the area are devastated with this proposal as they value The Wetlands passionately; so much so that I believe will crowd fund to challenge Enfield Council in court. There are too many contradictions that I can see already, no doubt a legal team would reveal many more.

