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Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this important consultation.

I am writing to object to the following Policies: SP PL10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11; Policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10; Policy SA45: Land Between Camlet Way and Crescent Way, Hadley Wood, page 364; Policy SA54, page 374; Policy SA62 page 372; and Policy SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 – all of which propose the designation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes.

All these sites are part of the historic Enfield Chase, which played an important role in the development of Enfield. The remaining parts of the Chase are unique in the southeast and a rare and valuable landscape asset. The loss of these sites would cause permanent harm not only to the Green Belt but also to the very character of the borough.

I particularly oppose the loss of Vicarage Farm. The land is crossed by the Merryhills Way footpath, much used by Enfield residents and others for exercise, relaxation, and the physical and mental health attributes of the footpath would be destroyed by development. The farmland could even be put back into productive use growing local food for local people. Has the council's 'sound' local plan to allow development on Vicarage Farm been considered only because this particular land is owned by developers? Enfield's councillors should know that this is a heavily used area by local residents, and it would be devastating to lose this part of the green belt. Other areas need to be considered rather than this specific green belt land.

The Council has a duty of care for the Green Belt, in accordance with the London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF], and any intentions to release parts of it should be taken out of the local plan.

The comments provided in this response to the consultation are my own views.