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With regards to the above, 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 use for burial and / or crematorium use.

I oppose this policy mainly for the following reasons:

1. Firs Farm Wetlands is a vitally important community resource, essential to health & well being of the local community
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 & leisure facilities in Enfield
3. The proposal will significantly affect the local Site of Interest for Nature Conservation, and reduce the bio-diversity and nature conservation interest of Firs Farm Wetlands, contrary to several other policies in the draft 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, also local traffic. 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 groups (e.g Thames Water) that have been endorsed and supported by Enfield Council
7. We need open space to safely walk our dogs away from cars and motorbikes
8. We need open space to walk away from polluting traffic
9. Local residents use this space to sit and enjoy – not everyone have gardens to relax in
10. Firs Farm Wetlands is a good place to sit and learn about the different types of birds & aquatic life that live there – not just for children but for all ages

I call on the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm Wetlands from Policy SP CL4