

I am a new resident in Hadley Wood having moved into the area 2 years ago. One of the reasons for moving to this area was the green spaces and countryside feeling of the area as it is surrounded by Green Belt which protects the special character of the area. It is a special area that needs its green spaces protected. London is built up and is heavily congested already and in current times, Covid has made us understand and appreciate how much we need open green spaces for our mental health and wellbeing. These spaces are available to all not just its residents and are regularly visited by many surrounding residents to enjoy and appreciate. As such, I object to the proposed site allocation which would allow the development of 160 homes on Green Belt land.

#### **1. NOT A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT LOCATION.**

Development and growth is positive but must be in line with improving amenities, infrastructure to be able to accommodate the new residents and no such plans are in place and therefore will create further problems on top of the existing problems. The roads and access roads are heavily congested, it currently lacks schools, shopping facilities and healthcare. The development of site SA45 is not supported with the necessary development to accommodate the new residents and existing residents. It requires more schools, healthcare, leisure and shopping facilities, more local public transport and better road infrastructure, and the current drainage/sewers are inadequate. Hadley Wood is an area that depends on using a vehicle and current congestion is already excessive and well over 100% of capacity let alone the air pollution this causes and will cause with a new development.

#### **2. SAVE OUR GREEN BELT**

I believe Green Belt should be protected and conserved as it serves vital purposes as already mentioned including separation from Barnet and Potters Bar. It helps with air quality in the borough and not to mention biodiversity. The centuries' old grasslands are an important resource for carbon sequestration.

#### **3. PLAN WILL DESTROY OUR UNIQUE HERITAGE LANDSCAPE.**

The Hadley Wood meadows under threat are part of the established Green Belt in an Area of Special Character across three boroughs. They provide visual harmony for many walkers and cyclists, are the setting for two Conservation Areas and their loss would greatly harm the heritage value of both Hadley Wood and Monken Hadley. The intensification plans would also cause harm to the Conservation Area.

#### **4. UNNECESSARY AND WRONG.**

I believe that the housing supply nor demand requirement has been adequately assessed. The range of housing need numbers is too wide to justify the necessary exceptional circumstances, and various potential sources of supply, such as SIL sites, have not been

assessed. There is also no evidence of compliance with the Duty to Cooperate with other boroughs.

## **5. CLIMATE CHANGE.**

With the governments initiative on climate change it does not make sense to put so much more pressure in a car-dependent location. Hadley Wood is not a suitable location for a large scale increase in housing at site SA45 or through intensification. Our family take climate change extremely seriously with our behaviour including travelling to work by bicycle and having only electric cars in our household. Congestion in the area is already a major problem and this will be worsened significantly which will lead to even more air pollution let alone the destruction of grassland, a valuable resource for carbon sequestration, which would have a negative impact in the area. It goes against everything the Government objective on climate change.

I therefore kindly ask to remove this proposed site allocation from the next edition of the Local Plan and retain the green belt status for the land.