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I object to draft policy DM BG 10 in the Draft Enfield Local Plan. This allocates Firs Farm Wetlands (Site ID SA 59) as a site for burial and/or crematorium use.

I oppose this plan for a number of reasons including:

1. The Wetlands provide an invaluable community resource which is well used by families, other groups and people of all ages. I believe the area has been a particularly crucial asset over the last eighteen months and will continue to be so.
2. The proposal would significantly affect the local Site of Interest for Nature Conservation and reduce the biodiversity and nature conservation interest of the Wetlands.
3. The proposal would adversely affect the local environment and local traffic.
4. The proposed site is in close proximity to playing fields, school playing fields, a Scout base, a primary school and a secondary school all of which would be affected by the pollution caused by a crematorium.
5. Vehicular access and parking for funeral cortèges would have a significant and detrimental affect on the local roads and traffic.
6. The proposal would reduce the effectiveness of the flood alleviation provided by Firs Farm Wetlands which Enfield Council has spent more than £1,000,000 to provide.
7. The proposal introduces uncertainty into the future use of Firs Farm Wetlands and therefore jeopardises funding for projects secured by local community groups that have been endorsed and supported by Enfield Council.
8. There is a crematorium on the A10 and I am not aware of publicised evidence outlining the need for an additional crematorium.
9. At a time when there is global concern about climate change and the importance of valuing, caring for and developing green spaces this is a retrograde and backward looking proposal by Enfield Council.

Enfield Council should be valuing and enhancing its green spaces for the benefit of its residents and the population as a whole rather than destroying them.

I call on the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm Wetlands from policy DM BG10.