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I am writing to object to the following Policies within the proposed draft local plan: 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; and Policy SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 – all of which propose the de-designation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes.

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

Whilst we understand Enfield Council has a commitment to providing enough housing to meet everyone's needs this can be done through the effective use of Brownfield Sites within the Borough. The Strategic Housing Land Availability document produced by Enfield Council identifies sites that can provide circa 15,000 dwellings within the Borough on Brownfield Sites. These sites should surely all be fully developed for housing before we even consider the possibility of destroying these Green Belt spaces and including these as options within our local plan. These sites which make such an important contribution to local community both providing a sanctuary for wildlife and the local residents and for many of us these spaces have provided us with a lifeline during the Covid Pandemic.

The green belt was established in the 1950s to safeguard the countryside from encroachment and for almost 70 years Local Authorities have maintained these green spaces around Greater London that have been here for hundreds and thousands of years. Once they are developed they are gone forever. Green Belt land may only be altered in EXCEPTIONAL circumstances, and both the Government which is Conservative and the Mayor of London who is Labour have both re-iterated their commitment to both protecting and enhancing the Green Belt. If these developments are allowed to go ahead they will increase traffic flows, congestion and create additional pollution and affect our collective health in a number of ways. Myself and my family utilise these green belt fields regularly for walks and exercise and it was one of the primary reasons for choosing where we live which is within minutes of this space. These spaces provide an escape from the pressures of work and life in London. If these sites are developed then we will most certainly be leaving Enfield, a place where we have spent our entire lives and a place in which we currently feel strongly embedded within our local community. The building on these sites which in my view will fracture this relationship.

We therefore urge you to REJECT these proposals. Once this Green Belt land is gone its GONE FOREVER.