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**Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021**

I am writing this letter because I would like to strongly object to draft policy DM BG10 in the Draft Enfield Local Plan. This allocates Firs Farm Wetlands (Site ID SA59) as a site for burial and/or crematorium use. I oppose this policy because:

- My family have recently moved to this area and when we were choosing the house, having access to a large green space was an essential criterion. This is because both of our children have Autism and other special educational needs and we were told that such children are regularly taken to the Firs Farm land for educational and sensory purposes and we hoped our children could benefit from this too. After we moved to the area we joined Friend of Firs Farm and do voluntary work as a family on that land weekly. Also, Winchmore School which my daughter attends organises activities in Firs Farm Wetlands for their students with Special Education Needs. It would be very upsetting if children and other residents with Special Education Needs are compromised by no longer having access to their usual activities.
- It could be psychologically distressing for people because seeing crematorium on a daily basis would constantly remind them of death. This is not healthy to live with such concept. This especially concerns vulnerable people with Special Education Needs because often their conditions are accompanied by severe anxiety and depression.
- Being an Orthodox, it is against our culture and religion to mix live and death and having a crematorium built in the park in the middle of a residential area and opposite my daughter's school is unacceptable to us and our culture.
- It was important for us that our children would be able to play football games with other children at the Firs Farm fields, enjoy the green space, walk our dog there. A café was planned to be build at a former parking space to enable stronger community bonds to develop through socialising there. It would be very disappointing if instead of a café, a crematorium is built there.
- Another reason for my objection is environmental factors. I do not want my children or anyone else to breath whatever the incinerator will be generating which is fumes of burned bodies. Again, this is unacceptable for so many reasons.

I call on the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm wetlands from Policy **DM BG10.**"

Thank you.

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