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Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this important consultation.

I am writing to 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:

- Firs Farm wetlands is a vitally important community resource, essential to the health and 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 and leisure facilities in Enfield.
- The proposal will significantly affect the local Site of Interest for Nature Conservation, and reduce the biodiversity and nature conservation interest of Firs Farm wetlands, contrary to several other policies in the draft Local Plan.
- 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.
- The proposal will adversely affect the environment and local traffic, and this has not been properly considered in the Integrated Impact Assessment of the draft Local Plan.
- The policy introduces uncertainty into the future use of Firs Farm wetlands that jeopardises funding for projects secured by local community groups (e.g. from Thames Water) that have been endorsed and supported by Enfield Council.
- This policy would affect the jogging path I use for exercise and the paths my child uses to scooter and cycle. Also, walking around the full grounds of the wetlands/ recreation ground, including through the orchard walk,8: something we do weekly as a family, playing in the wooded areas.
- Having a crematorium so close to the North London hospice is insensitive - also, this is a residential area right near houses and a school. Crematoriums should not be set so close to residential areas and certainly not on green space that has been so lovingly maintained, restored and that is so popularly used.
- There has been so much time and energy invested into making the whole of the Firs Farm area better over the years and the improvements on the area you propose to build on are in the making, such as the trees growing along Orchard Walk. The community cafe is something my family and I were so excited about visiting and being a part of. This wastes the potential of a space that is being so carefully nurtured and grown by the the Firs Farm family team. We will be devastated if this goes ahead: the

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

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

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