

We have lived in Hadley Wood for more than 30 years and been lucky to experience the peace and quiet being surrounded by Green Belt offers. When we moved here our road had no street lights and it felt like being in the country, it was idyllic. Over the past 30 years Hadley Wood has changed and become more suburban with substantial houses being demolished and replaced with mansions and gardens being sold off to developers. The Green Belt has however so far prevented the over development of the area and destruction of wild habitats as was intended when it was conceived. The Green Belt (London and Home Counties) Act gave local authorities the right to protect Green Belt Land and stop overdevelopment by private individuals.

1. Green Belt

The Green Belt was conceived to prevent London sprawl and help to keep the air clean. In these times of Climate Change when we are seeing extremes of temperature and are aware of the necessity of wild habitats and trees to help cool the planet it seems to me inconceivable that we would ignore it's primary purpose. Enfield Council should protect this boundary.

2. Community and Infrastructure

Hadley Wood has a station, a small Primary School, and a couple of shops. There is limited transport and no parking facilities. The trains only run half hourly and the roads are already busy and polluted. The addition of 160 houses would increase the traffic and put pressure on the already oversubscribed School as well as the transport links. There is no GP or NHS healthcare and the volume of traffic and pollution will increase.

3. Conservation

The site is surrounded by Conservation and Grade 2 listed buildings and to develop the area would impact on these heritage assets. The site is currently leased to agricultural tenants who would have to relocate. Wildlife and biodiversity would be harmed which contradicts Enfield's Green policies and the Council's declaration of a Climate emergency. There are Brownfield sites in Enfield which should be prioritised for development.

It would seem to be an opportunistic application by the Duchy of Lancaster. The site was not previously listed in the 2018 Local Plan was added to enlist their support for the Local Plan.

I therefore strongly oppose any development on this site.