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My family home has been at EN4 for 22 years. It is a very short distance from the area of Green Belt land upon which it is proposed to build 160 houses.

I strongly object to the proposal.

The whole reason why we moved to Hadley Wood, and the reason we have remained, is the outstanding beauty of the area and the ability to walk out of the front door and step into such unspoilt countryside.

Visiting friends are always amazed that within a short distance from Central London they can be walking in green fields.

Apart from the destruction of an area of exceptional natural beauty, the proposal is now very much at odds with current policy. For years building on green fields was seen as the easy and cheap alternative to reclaiming brownfield sites. In days of increasing awareness about the importance of preserving the environment the government has emphasised the need to preserve our rapidly diminishing green spaces and prioritise the redevelopment of areas that have already been built upon.

In my view continuing with this proposal would be utterly irresponsible and would show contempt both for those who live in the borough and for the very ground itself.