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I'm writing in response to the Draft Local Plan consultation and to object to a number of policies which propose the de-designation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes. I also object to the Small Site policy which would destroy private residential gardens and to the Tall Buildings policy which would allow high rise development on high ground, alongside the Green Belt and alongside conservation areas. The proposal to allow tall buildings at Cockfosters is in breach of all prior policies and studies.

While I support housing development and support the ambition to meet Enfield's housing needs, I strongly object to the proposal to release Green Belt for housing or other purposes. I believe that there are alternatives available to meet housing targets and that the Green Belt is a precious resource that should be protected and preserved for future generations. It is too valuable to lose for all the many environmental, ecological, economic, public health and other reasons that have been identified, especially during the recent pandemic. The Council has a duty of care for the Green Belt, in accordance with the London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF], and any intentions to release parts of it should be taken out of the local plan.

I object to the specific proposal to build on the Green Belt in Hadley Wood where I have been a resident for 26 years. This is a cherished landscape that is a key part of local character and plays an important role in drainage and flood amelioration.

Similarly I object to the Small Site policy which will result in more local flooding and the destruction of trees in areas such as Hadley Wood.

I strongly object to the proposed development of thousands of new homes in the northwest of the borough as a result of the above policies. This area has the worst public transport in Greater London and is highly car dependent. All proposed sites will add congestion to J24 of the M25 and the key approach roads (Stagg Hill, Ridgeway, Ferny Hill, Cockfosters Road). At peak times these are already used to maximum capacity increasing pollution etc in the local area.

The comments provided are my own views.