

Date: 13 September 2021

To Whom it may concern,

RE: Enfield Local Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to Enfield Council's Local Plan consultation. I have been contacted by many residents across Enfield who are concerned at some of the Plan's proposals.

I recognise a number of positive and ambitious proposals in the Local Plan, including the commitment to deliver 50% genuinely affordable homes, to invest in our green spaces to increase biodiversity and to tackle climate change.

I also acknowledge the huge challenge of dealing with the housing crisis in the borough. With thousands of people on the council's waiting list it is important that homes are built to ensure residents have the security that offers. I also know the good work that has gone into the Meridian Water project and other schemes on brownfield sites to begin to deal with these issues which is to be welcomed.

However, I am opposed to the proposals to build on the Green Belt and other green spaces. I have received considerable correspondence from residents on this issue who are concerned about the impact on the environment, loss of vital green space, loss of growing green spaces and farmland, and erosion of green belt protections. As we will be living with the impact of Covid for some time, it is important to recognise the changing nature of life in the city. With more working from home, the importance of retaining as much open and green space as possible has never been higher; especially as many of the new homes being proposed will not have direct access to gardens or amenity space.

I understand the need for the local authority to plan and safeguard against future government intervention and the relaxation of planning regulations but would ask that this issue is once again reviewed. It is, in any event, in contravention of the Mayor's London Plan which recognises the significant role it plays in checking urban sprawl, providing food growing spaces, recreation and countering the urban heat island effect.

Residents have also raised concerns regarding the type of housing that is proposed, whether local people will be able to afford the homes that may be built if development on the green belt is permitted and whether they will deliver the mix of homes Enfield needs. I also note that the PTAL score for development in an area such as Crews Hill is very low and so residents would rely on their

cars to travel, which does not meet other policy objectives of reducing congestion and air pollution and encouraging healthy lifestyles.

I welcome Enfield's commitment to be a carbon neutral borough by 2040 and to protect biodiversity, ancient woodland and to enhance access to parks and green spaces in Enfield.

Thank you once again for the chance to respond to this consultation.

Yours sincerely,