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I am writing to object to the following Policies within the proposed draft local plan: SP PL10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11; Policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10; Policy SA45: Land bordered by Camlet Way, Hadley Wood, page 364; Policy SA54, page 374; and Policy SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 – all of which propose the de-designation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes.

These sites are part of historic Enfield Chase, which is unique in the southeast and played an important role in the development of Enfield. It is a rare and valuable landscape asset and its loss would result in permanent harm to the existing Green Belt provision, and also to the very character of the borough.

Effective use of existing brownfield site within the borough could meet the council obligation to provide enough housing for current and future needs.

The Strategic Housing Land Availability document produced by Enfield Council identifies sites that can provide circa 15,000 dwellings within the Borough on Brownfield Sites. These sites should surely be fully developed for housing before we even consider the possibility of destroying these Green Belt spaces and including these as options within our local plan. Greenbelt land makes an important contribution to our local community by providing a sanctuary for wildlife and the local residents, many of whom have benefitted from this essential lifeline during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Thanks to the vision of our forefathers, the green belt was established in the 1950s to safeguard the countryside from encroachment and continue the protection of open greenbelt land that has been established over many hundreds of years. Green Belt land may only be altered in EXCEPTIONAL circumstances; this provision is supported by government and politicians of all stripes who continually repeat their commitment to both protecting and enhancing the Green Belt. If these developments are permitted, they will result in harm to the local environments due to increased traffic and construction pollution with consequent adverse impact on our collective health in many ways. Myself and my extended family utilise these green belt fields regularly for walks and exercise and it was one of the primary reasons why we relocated from inner London many years ago, choosing Enfield as, probably, our final stop on life's journey. Building on these sites would give me serious doubts about the wisdom of our relocation decision and we may have to consider moving further out of the borough.

The benefits these spaces contribute to good quality of life for most Enfield residents are considerable and should not be ignored when adequate building land exists that is not designated as greenbelt.

As an enthusiastic golfer it does not escape my observation that many acres of Enfield owned land are devoted to a pursuit enjoyed by relatively few Enfield residents; and many from outside the borough. I would willingly see some of that acreage given over to housing those in greater need.

Once this Green Belt land is gone, we will never get it back, and future generations will be poorer for such short-sighted planning decisions.

I therefore urge you to REJECT these proposals.