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## **Local Plan - Site SA45 – Land between Camlet Way and Crescent West, Hadley**

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### **Wood**

Having lived in Hadley Wood for 50 years and always been a member of the HWA, I have sadly witnessed an enormous amount of building within the village and an erosion of gardens with housing infills and the recent removal of many front gardens with large paved driveways, all approved of by Enfield Council.

I have a clear memory of wagtails and swallows nesting in Hadley Wood throughout my childhood which have sadly been lost over the years because of the overbuilding in this area. BUT it has been a relief that our greenbelt has remained, still allowing some diverse wildlife to exist, including small mammals such a muntjac deer, foxes etc. to thrive as well as insects and other birds.

If 2021 has proved anything our World is dramatically showing signs of climate change and therefore it is vital that our Green Belt in and around Enfield is protected and this proposal is an unnecessary large scale destruction of Green Belt. This proposal is in breach of national policies, the London Plan and Enfield's own Climate Change Action Plan. To build 25% of the new homes on Green Belt land surely cannot be justified or allowed to happen.

I respectfully urge that any building of this amount of houses should be considered on brownfield sites first – in particular some of the Council's own estates or landholdings before approving the destruction of Green belt areas, bearing in mind the Council has to be one of the largest landowners in the Borough.

It is a major environmental disregard for the Council's own Climate Action Plan – I cannot believe that concreting over a green field is in any way is contributing to the fight against

climate change.

It should also be pointed out that Hadley Wood as a village is totally dependent on car use as local transport links are extremely limited. This means that to visit shops, doctors' surgeries, postal services or supermarket shopping is dependent on the use of a car. An increase of 160 houses would also mean an increase of at least 160 cars, which will also not help to fight climate change in any way at all but WILL increase air pollution and WITHOUT the green fields to negate any carbon emissions.

Putting the environmental argument aside – it should also be noted that this area of building is also around the original area of the village dating back to Victorian times and will affect listed or historical buildings as well as not having adequate sewage and drainage facilities for this amount of new build without having impact on all existing properties.

I would therefore urge the Council to change the Local Plan to retain the green belt in this location and remove this site allocation – we cannot keep destroying our heritage that makes us “this green and pleasant land” for all our sakes and that of future generations.

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Yours faithfully