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To whom it may concern,

I have read with horror of the plan to redevelop the site at Sainsbury's, Winchmore Hill. I have lived in my current home for over 30 years, and so I remember when the playing fields were sold to make way for the supermarket. It was a relief to see that the surrounding trees were protected to leave some green space and protect the wildlife.

I have used the supermarket all my married life. If it is removed, my nearest Sainsbury's would be on the A10. That would not be an option for all the elderly people around here, who, at the moment, can get to Winchmore Hill on the bus, or walk with a trolley to get their shopping.

Going north, the next supermarket would be the Waitrose at Vicars Moor Lane. It is smaller and more expensive than Sainsbury's. Going south, there is a small Sainsbury's which is fine for the odd item when passing, but not for a weekly shop. Then there is Morrison's, which I never use. I have no doubt that for some, online shopping will be the answer, but it will increase traffic on the road and is not an option for everyone.

To replace Sainsbury's with the number of dwellings which have been proposed will drastically impact the quality of life for local residents. It will:

- place an intolerable burden on local infrastructure, such as schools, doctors' surgeries and transport.
- remove our current amenities
- destroy habitat of resident wildlife and trees
- degrade the quality of life for existing residents
- increase traffic

I recognise that there is a nationwide housing shortage, but surely planning departments have a duty beyond what is expedient, to find more creative solutions that don't ruin life for everyone else.