

Dear Sirs,

As a resident of Hyde Park Avenue in Edmonton ward, I am writing to object to many of the plans lodged within the draft local plan, and in particular to the building of a crematorium on Firs Farm Wetlands. I would like for you to remove all reference to a crematorium at Firs Farm Wetlands Park & Playing Fields from 'Policy DM B610' in the draft local plan.

Firs Farm Wetlands is a community space, built and maintained by local residents, with lottery funding and is an important green space for the health and well being of our community. During the COVID pandemic, I, and many other local residents were so lucky to be able to use the wetlands during our exercise time - it was and still is an important space for the residents of the area particularly those not lucky enough to have access to gardens. The space really is 'treasured' by our community, hosting community events such as sports and lessons, as well as for more simple activities - I've taken my children at least once a week since I moved to the area 5 years ago. I was lucky enough to see it being opened and appreciate the amazing changes that have been made over the years.

It is also an important space for wildlife in our community - the return of water voles (which I have attached our pictures of) is testament to the success of the re-creation of the wetlands habitat, and of course they are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

So the earmarking of this site as a potential to hold a crematorium is confusing, and seems wrong according to the council's own guidance regarding the location of a crematorium. This site would be unsuitable due to the risk of flooding, air pollution and groundwater contamination, all of which seem to be risks in this case. It's not only close to my home, but countless other homes, extremely close to local schools including Firs Farm Primary School, and The Winchmore School. It is also right next to 2 brand new tennis courts, provision for football, cricket and a skate park - perfect for filling the lungs of our communities children and young people with various heavy metals etc.

I would also like to object to the building on of all our beautiful green space in Enfield. We have such a beautiful borough - but it won't be for long if we build over all the green that makes it so beautiful, and so lovely to live in. These plans seem incredibly short sighted, and risk turning our borough into something akin to the central London boroughs many here have moved from.

Please, reconsider both parts of the plan, and let's protect the health, lungs and livelihoods of our local community.