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To whom it may concern, Cllr Ian Barnes,

I am writing to object to draft policy DM BG16 in the draft Enfield local plan, which allocates Firs Farm Wetlands (site ID SA59) as a site for burial/crematorium use.

I find this surprising and hugely disappointing, as Firs Farm Wetlands is a vital community resource which has enormous value to and positive impact on the health and well-being of many local people. The idea that we would lose a cherished, well maintained and popular green space is frankly bizarre given the global focus on climate and environment. This is a Site of Interest for Nature Conservation, so to compromise this is in direct contravention of other policies outlined in the draft Local Plan. All this at a time when protecting and enhancing biodiversity and nature conservation should be more important than ever!

Firs Farm Wetlands is a place where many people come to exercise both as part of teams and as individuals and families. The plans outlined in the draft Local Plan directly contradicts Strategic Policy SP CL4 by reducing the sports and leisure facilities available.

Firs Farm Wetlands has seen significant investment from Enfield Council to provide flood alleviation to the local area. To reduce the effectiveness of this, which has cost £1million seems like a huge step backwards.

The impact on the local area will be enormous - increased traffic, bringing with it congestion and air pollution, not to mention the detrimental effect on air quality brought about by a functioning crematorium. All this in an area very close to two primary and two secondary schools. It seems like a poor choice of location for such a proposal.

We love this place. Please, please, this cannot be allowed to be lost to us, our children and their children.

I call upon the council to remove all reference to Firs Farm Wetlands from policy SP CL4.