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Dear Enfield Council

Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

I write to object to the following Policies: SP PL10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11; Policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10; Policy SA45: Land Between Camlet Way and Crescent Way, Hadley Wood, page 364; Policy SA54, page 374; Policy SA52 page 372; 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.

Losing the Green Belt will impact the the quality of life of those living in Enfield. Most of these sites are part of historic Enfield Chase, which played an important role in the development of Enfield. The remaining parts of the Chase are unique in the southeast and a rare and valuable landscape asset. Vicarage Farm is crossed by the Merryhills Way footpath, much used by Enfield residents and others for exercise and relaxation and the physical and mental health attributes of the footpath would be destroyed by development. Crews Hill is equally important to the borough and should not be destroyed. Its garden centres and other businesses provide employment and a resource for people from Enfield and beyond.

Instead of losing Crews Hill for housing, its horticultural activities should be encouraged and enhanced so that it can once again be a hub for food and plant production. Instead of negatively impacting the lives of those in Enfield, this could be an opportunity to make positive and tangible change for local residents.

There is a massive need for affordable housing in Enfield but this is not the right way to provide it to people. There are many empty properties that could be compulsorily purchased and put to better use than another coffee shop, nail bar or betting shop; the Green Belt is a precious resource that should be protected and preserved for future generations. It is too valuable to lose and once gone, will take years to replace. We are running out of time to safeguard our planet for future generations.

The Council has a duty of care for the Green Belt, in accordance with the London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF], and any intentions to release parts of it should be taken out of the local plan.

These comments are my own views.