

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been a resident either in or very close to Hadley Wood for 20 years and I am the Vice Chair of Governors at Hadley Wood School, and I wish to object to the proposed site allocation which would permit the development of 160 homes on green belt land. The proposal is so preposterous that we shouldn't have to waste our precious time trying to fend off an intrusive, unwanted and unnecessary project that serves nobody but the council itself. It would be a tragedy to lose the green areas that are the defining feature of the area. Specifically, my objections are as follows:

1. THE AREA IS ALREADY LACKING IN ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE – the majority of travel to and from the new development would be by car as public transport options are very limited. This would lead to more traffic congestion on already busy roads, additional pollution, and increased emissions of greenhouse gases. There is only one already over-subscribed school, there is no healthcare or leisure facilities, and no shops to speak of. There are already problems with inadequate sewer/drain capacity that will only be exacerbated by the building of so much hard buildings as a replacement for natural drainage areas.
2. THE GREEN BELT MUST BE SACROSANCT – It is totally unacceptable to build on green belt; these areas are designated as green belt for a reason and they remain vital to maintain biodiversity, animal corridors and the spread of the urban sprawl. These fields have been there for centuries.
3. THE DEVELOPMENT IS UNNECESSARY – there are other areas within the borough that are more suitable as sites for these sorts of developments but it seems that these alternatives have not been properly considered.
4. HADLEY WOOD'S UNIQUE CHARACTER NEEDS PRESERVING – a development of this scale would completely destroy the character of the local area by removing green spaces and dominating the landscape. The affected fields have been designated as an Area of Special Character. Parts of Hadley Wood itself are conservation areas and the special nature of these would inevitably be under threat.

Can you please therefore remove this proposed site allocation from the next edition of the Local Plan and retain the green belt status for the land.