

Dear Enfield Council

I am writing 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 dedesignation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes.

The Government's position is set out clearly, parts of the email that was received from the Department for Communities and Local Government detailed the following:

*'...Following consultation, in December, we changed the standard method of assessing local housing need to help deliver 300,000 homes a year by the mid 2020's, whilst preserving our countryside and green spaces and making the best use of brownfield and urban centre land. I would like to reassure you however that the housing need figure is not the target, but the starting point for local authorities. They still have to take account of constraints in the area, such as Green Belt when deciding how many new homes to plan for.*

*Furthermore, this government is committed to protecting and enhancing the Green Belt, in line with our manifesto. The framework outlines strong protections for green belt land and states that a green belt boundary may be altered only in exceptional circumstances through the local plan process. A local authority should consider releasing land from the Green Belt only if it can show that it has examined all other reasonable options for meeting its development needs. This means that the authority should have been using as much brownfield land as possible, optimising development densities and discussing with neighbouring authorities whether they could accommodate some of the development required'.*

In light of what the government policy advisor namely Mr Scott has detailed, I ask the Local Authority to provide details of what the 'exceptional circumstances' are that require a Green Belt boundary to be altered for housing, and also to provide evidence of all the reasonable options that have been examined thus far.

There are many brownfield sites that can be used for redevelopment. Some key facts and figures are as follows: In 2014, it was estimated that in London, there was approximately 2,650 hectares of brownfield land in London suitable for developing on housing with a capacity of 146,530 homes. The Centre for Cities has even suggested that if every brownfield site was developed to its full capacity, there would be enough land for around 382,500 new homes in the Capital. Brownfield land is also a renewable source, the Green belt is not, brownfield land is also not going to 'run out', whereas Green Belt will.

I chose to live in the EN2 postcode because it is on the Green Belt, it is not congested, I am surrounded by nature, we are a close knit community, I have access to local amenities and it is easy to commute in to London where I work. I certainly do not want to be surrounded by an increase of dwellings, congestion, be subjected to more pollution or even crime. The proposal to build new homes is an honourable one as I understand there are many people

who need a home. One of my queries with you is about the affordability of new homes should the proposals go ahead. A prime example of this is the recent housing development at Chase Farm hospital where thousands of homes have been built at the cost of most of Chase Farm Hospital closing. A four bedroom house within Chase Farm hospital grounds is currently for sale at Locksley Place at a price of £735,000, a street away at The Greystock, a four bedroom house is priced at £790,000. How does this sit with Enfield Local Authority who approved these building works with the alleged 'Help to Buy' scheme within the same grounds, yet most key workers cannot even afford the deposit? I do not believe that a) building on the green belt is an option b) the cost of a home on the green belt would not be affordable.

The Green Belt in Enfield is the heart and lungs of the Borough. Spending time in nature is one of the classic means of escape from everyday life, a great way to rest and relax. We are so very lucky to live in a borough that has open spaces for everyone to use and it has brought so much solace to so many people during the Covid Pandemic. Please Enfield Council, do not take this away from us.