

Dear Enfield Council,

Response to the draft local plan Reg 18 consultation 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this important consultation.

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 SA62, page 372; and Policy SA62, page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 – all of which propose the designation of Green belt land for housing and other purposes.

All of these sights are part of the historic Enfield Chase, which played an important role in the development of Enfield. The remaining parts of the Chase are unique in the South East and are rare and valuable landscape asset. The loss of these sites would cause permanent harm to the Green Belt, but also the very character of the borough and will be detrimental to the local wildlife. In this day and age of Climate Change when it's imperative we preserve areas of greenery, I find it very strange that the Council is pursuing a policy of actively destroying it. You may argue that there is a need for affordable housing yet a recent development in Trent Park consisted of luxury properties which most people were out priced from, why was this the case and affordable property not built there? I feel if the council put their collective heads together they could easily source a brown belt area with the potential to construct houses on.

I particularly oppose to the loss of Vicarage Farm, the land is crossed by the Merryhills way footpath, much used by Enfield residents and others for exercise, relaxation and the physical and mental health attributes of the footpath will be destroyed by the development. This land was particularly conclusive to my own wellbeing during lockdown as it was literally the only area I could go to accept work and the supermarket, because of restrictions.. The farmland could even be put back into productive use growing local food for local people. Has the council's 'sound' local plan to allow development on Vicarage Farm been considered only because this particular land is owned by developers? Enfield's councillors should know that this is a heavily used area by local residents, and it would be devastating to lose this part of the Green Belt. Other areas need to be considered rather than this specific Green Belt land.

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.

The council also has to remember that it has a duty of care to its current residents, it is my belief that the additional homes proposed in this area will put a considerable strain on the local infrastructure e.g. roads / traffic (pollution), schools and local NHS services (which are already stretched to breaking point).

The comments provided in this response to the consultation are my own views.