

Dear Councillors,

I write to you as a current resident of the London Borough of Enfield, and as someone who spent my whole childhood in Enfield, to express my concerns about Enfield's Local Plan and the proposals currently open to consultation. In particular, I am concerned about the plans to redesignate the Green Belt land in "Chase Park" and Crews Hill to land for housing developments as this would be a significant detriment to the environment in the area, the wildlife living there, the quality of life for existing residents, and goes in direct contravention of the proposal's stated objective of making Enfield "the green lung of London".

However sustainable the developments intend to be, it will be worse for the environment than allowing the land to remain designated Green Belt land.

Having read the Local Plan in detail, I am concerned to hear about the sheer number of houses planned for these two areas. There are many questions to be asked about why Enfield's much touted "Meridian Water" development has quietly revised its planned number of homes from 10,000 to only 5,000 when so much money has already been invested in this. The response to whatever has triggered this revision cannot be to redesignate precious Green Belt land to a building site.

I urge the council to reconsider the proposals for developments on existing brownfield sites, and make these as sustainable as possible as the first priority, instead of threatening the Green Belt land and the benefits that keeping it Green offers. The pandemic has taught us the importance of valuing and protecting our environment, and the existing Green Belt areas have provided a safe haven for my family and for many others around us throughout the last year. To lose this now would be heartbreaking.

Please stop this irreversible loss of London's Green Belt. Given the current heightened awareness of climate change and the impact of our actions on the environment, it would be particularly irresponsible to continue with the plans to build on the Green Belt.