

Dear Sirs,

Re: Draft Local Plan - Site SA45 (Land between Camlet Way and Crescent West, Hadley Wood) and Intensification Zone around Hadley Wood Station

We have lived in Hadley Wood now for just over twenty-five years and my wife grew up and lived in Hadley Wood prior to our marriage. We were married in St Pauls Church and our children attended Hadley Wood Primary School.

Throughout these years we have seen many changes in the area, in particular, with regards to properties being demolished and converted into blocks of flats. This has affected the character of the neighbourhood and placed significant strains on the infrastructure of the area, particularly with regards to traffic congestion through the area.

If the proposed site SA45 were to be approved this would impact immensely on the escalating issues we are experiencing and, as the area is surrounded by Green Belt, would cause unacceptable damage to not only the local character, but the environmental quality and residential amenity of the area.

We therefore object to the proposed site allocation, which would allow the development of 160 homes on Green Belt land as we feel the increase in residents will place additional strain on the local schools, shopping and leisure facilities, local public transport and an already suffering drainage and sewer structure.

It will also negate vital air quality and slowing /reducing the impacts of climate change by destroying grasslands that are an important resource for carbon sequestration as well as the essential space for habitats of wildlife.

We must not also overlook the benefits of that our Green Belt can offer for our health and wellbeing. This has become more apparent following the coronavirus lockdowns where we felt more connected than ever to our local spaces and countryside.

The site consideration of SA45 is clearly an over-development proposal with the range of housing numbers too wide to justify the necessary exceptional circumstances and is, in our opinion, inappropriate as it is harmful to the Green Belt and breaches the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular paragraphs 137-151.

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

