

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 draft policy DM BG10 in the Draft Enfield Local Plan. This allocates Firs Farm Wetlands (Site ID SA59) as a site for burial and/or crematorium use. I oppose this policy because:

I have been using these grounds for years, before it became the Firs Farms Wetlands, I use to use it as a place to train for 5/10k runs. Once the wetlands was created it became a place that my son and myself used as a place to walk and catch up.

During the lockdown me and my son would take daily walks, cycle and we made many friends during that time. The wetlands was a lifeline for me, when things got tough it was the place I went to just to take a moment and breathe.

We are so lucky to have this beautiful greenspace that attracts people from across London, but its great for the local community. We all benefit from this place, three generations of my family use the wetlands. I love to see the older generation walking, talking, doing Tai Chi, to young people roller-skating and having a picnic.

In society we are encouraged to enjoy the great outdoors, we want more young people of devices and doing positive activities, to enable that we need to not have an have extended burial/ crematorium site.

Don't destroy the beauty you created.

- Firs Farm wetlands is a vitally important community resource, essential to the health and The draft Policy directly contradicts Strategic Policy SP CL4 in the draft Local Plan. This identifies Firs Farm as facilitating and contributing towards developing sport and leisure facilities in Enfield.
- The proposal will significantly affect the local Site of Interest for Nature Conservation, and reduce the biodiversity and nature conservation interest of Firs Farm wetlands, contrary to several other policies in the draft Local Plan.
- The proposal will reduce the effectiveness of the flood alleviation provided by Firs Farm wetlands, which Enfield Council has spent more than £1 million to provide.
- The proposal will adversely affect the environment and local traffic, and this has not been properly considered in the Integrated Impact Assessment of the draft Local Plan.
- The policy introduces uncertainty into the future use of Firs Farm wetlands that jeopardises funding for projects secured by local community groups (e.g. from Thames Water) that have been endorsed and supported by Enfield Council.

I call on the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm wetlands from Policy **DM BG10.**"

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

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