

I am writing to provide my views on the Draft Local Plan, and especially the proposals to build on Enfield's Green Belt.

Building over the Green Belt in Enfield would be catastrophic for the area, and I believe unnecessary. The Green Belt is part of Enfield's identity and differentiates ourselves from our neighbouring boroughs, providing mental health, physical health, economic and ecological benefits to our area. The 7% of Green Belt that is being proposed for repurposing into housing is a huge proportion considering the plan is to build on the most visible areas in Crews Hill and Chase Park: the character of the area will be destroyed.

As a family with young children, we go for frequent walks through the paths that traverse Crews Hill golf course and surrounding footpaths; I go for runs along the area around Vicarage Farm. Also we and a number of people in surrounding boroughs regard the garden centres in Crews Hill in the highest esteem. It provides vital employment and is an important part of Enfield's identity.

Whilst I am generally supportive over Enfield's ambitions, please note that demand for houses in Enfield is not as high: over the past year house prices have actually decreased by 1.63% when there has been a mini-National house price boom.

Also, I am all for high investment in the eastern parts of Enfield: and I support the building of homes and regenerating the surrounding area. However, I do not believe building over the Green Belt is the answer to re-addressing the east-west imbalance: bringing down the character of the area, destroying wildlife habitats and reducing employment by building over the Green Belt is not the answer for readdressing the balance.

Thank you for considering my thoughts as a resident of Enfield.

