

Dear Sir/Madam/Other

i am writing with concerns about Enfield Council's Draft Local Plan.

(i am copying in my local MP so that she is aware of the extent of resident concerns to the local council's plans)

i received a leaflet through my letterbox about three weeks ago. this was the first i had heard about the plan, which is way too short notice given the consultation deadline (today 13/09/21).

the leaflet does not give enough information, and gives no information about accessing or responding to the draft plan except for online. it is very wrong for the council to assume that everyone is able to use the internet. technically there is internet access to all via the local libraries that remain, but this will not meet everyone's needs, especially wrt disabled access. and even with this theoretical access, there will be people who do not feel able to use a computer or the internet effectively or comfortably. it can be disproportionately difficult for some of us who are disabled - for myself i find it very difficult to use the internet, despite having reasonable access to it - both as someone with a visual processing difficulty (reading the screen, reading words, and navigating webpages is difficult), and as someone with chronic fatigue syndrome and other physical health stuff going on (i do not have much capacity and energy and focus, and can not sit without pain for sufficient periods of time).

i'd like to complain about the poor access to this consultation, and very short and poorly advertised consultation period - it feels like the council is trying to rush things through without residents really being able to participate. i certainly feel i have not had enough time in the past three weeks to find and process and understand

all the information i need, and to make some kind of response. and my response will only be partial because i have to submit it by today.

in summary i am writing to:

\*\* object to the 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; and Policy SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 – these all propose the dedesignation of Green Belt for housing, industrial and other purposes. i do not agree that it is acceptable to use Green Belt land like this, and i think other options should be prioritised and more thoroughly investigated ('Brown' / 'Grey' designated land, unused/unoccupied land already built on, land around retail and industrial areas). once Green Belt land is lost, it is permanently lost. the habitats and diversity of species have often formed over decades, if not centuries, and the fine ecological balance is irreparable. as i understand it, these areas within the Trent Park Conservation Area and around Enfield Chase and Camlet Moat are also of historic significance, and their loss would cause permanent harm to the character of the borough, as well as the devastating impact on the Green Belt.

\*\* object to Policies SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 which transfer part of Whitewebbs Park, a public amenity, into private management. the existing sports/recreational facilities in this area have already grown in size over the years - particularly the football club - and further expansion would really change the nature of the area for most of us. i regularly visit Whitewebbs Park and value the sense of space around the park as well as within it. within the park there is a rich and varied wildlife, and i believe changing the space around the park would start to change the space and viability within the park for some species - it's not just the habitat within the park that's important but the habitat around the park too, which provides important feeding and breeding areas, as well as a kind of more natural buffer around the areas within the park. talking with other naturalists and bird watchers

i've met over the years in Whitewebbs Park, i understand Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers have been observed there, possibly breeding, which are a nationally and locally scarce species. these and other species can be very particular about the places they will breed, down to details that humans would consider too small/insignificant to understand - a hedgerow or tree is not just a hedgerow/tree to eg a bird - so many factors including species, age, etc shape each individual plant in an area, which then affects every other species around it and relying on it. the draft plans for this area look like they'll push up against both Forty Hall and Whitewebbs Park, affecting the heritage aspects of this area as well as the environmental aspects.

\*\* object to Policy SA52 page 372, which would remove part of Rammey Marsh from the Green Belt. looking at what i can see of the draft plan it plans to remove much of the north side of Rammey Marsh (if viewed from the road over to Enfield Island Village). this area is a really important area for wildlife and local residents. i live close to Enfield Lock railway station, and Rammey Marsh is really important to me - as a physically disabled person, it's one of the more accessible wild areas in the area (with parking and wide grassy paths). i enjoy walks there alone or with friends. as a birdwatcher, it's special because i've seen the elusive Grasshopper Warbler there (which i also believe breed there), as well as many other summer migrant birds like Willow Warbler, Whitethroat, Sedge Warbler.. plenty of our resident species, including Bulfinch, Skylark Meadow Pipit and Barn Owl (all scarce London species).. and some scarce London wintering species like Woodcock and Short-eared Owl. Rammey Marsh is also full of diverse wildflower species - a friend and me have enjoyed identifying some of the plants there, and have only touched on some of the variety. i'm aware that Enfield Lock Conservation Group have made regular surveys of Rammey Marsh over the years, including for important Orchid species (Rammey Marsh is home to London's largest orchid colony, and includes Bee, Pyramidal and Common Spotted Orchid species and some reptile and amphibian species. Rammey Marsh is a great place to walk or sit and relax, used by many people living in this area. and i remind the council that this side of the borough is already

considered more deprived as it is, and in need of support wrt maintaining access to green space and health-benefiting space. and i notice in the plan that the proposal is to replace it with 'industrial storage and distribution space' - this is so totally unacceptable, taking away a space of huge natural and environmental significance, and great importance to local residents for leisure and well being, and replacing it with nothing of benefit to us. i cannot adequately state how strongly i object to this complete destruction of a natural habitat - it's not just extending existing residential areas into Green Belt, but completely destroying green space and wildlife habitat for 'industrial storage' - the council's only consideration here seems to be economic, with no thought to the residents - human and other - of this area. a pattern i'm noticing generally in the parts of the draft plan i've been able to look at.

\*\* object to the tall building policies on pages 156-160, Figure 7.3, Figure 7.4 and Policy DE6, and SA2 Palace Gardens Shopping Centre page 321 which propose areas for and the acceptable height of tall buildings which, in many cases would mar the landscape and are also unnecessary because other lower-rise building forms could provide the same accommodation, as stated in the policy. this is one of the aspects of the plan i've struggled to understand from the information and maps i've been able to see, but it seems completely contrary to previous council decisions to reduce tall buildings and restrict higher rise construction in the borough.

as i said, i do not feel that i have been given time by Enfield Council, nor provided with information in formats that would have been more accessible to me, to enable me fully participate in this consultation, or to fully respond.

i'm aware that many local people will have faced similar or worse difficulties to me.

nowhere have i seen information on how to access the plans in person, nor sessions around the borough where the public can meet council representatives to see, discuss, and comment on the plans.

one really important loss over the past year or two which i think

also contributes to this issue of lack of information and engagement has been the Enfield Council's regular magazine delivered to residents - this could eg have given more space to provide information on this issue.

i don;t spend alot of itme online, and i don;t get out as much as i would like in the borough, so it's hard ot get information about things that affect me - the council should be doing more to facilitate greater access to information, especially on matters as important as this Draft Local Plan.

P.S. i'm aware that my spelling and grammar are not always great, please do not use this as a reason to disregard any of my comments - to do so would be discriminatory, especially wrt disability (my visual processing disorder affects my spelling in a simialr way to Dyslexia). i think where some words are not spelled correctly, it remains clear what words i intended.