

Enquiry details:

I would like to lodge a formal objection to the proposed Local Plan as it stands. Please incorporate the following into the consultation process.

I am deeply concerned about the proposed Local Plan for two main reasons:

1. The destruction of large chunks of Enfield's green belt is both unnecessary and is counter to the aims and principles of our climate change strategy.

The green belt provides a source of clean air, opportunities for walking and exercise, and unique ecological habitats for a wide range of wildlife.

I strongly object to the land both east and west of Trent Park being ear-marked for development as well as the area around Crews Hill. This includes the proposals for the land between Camlet Way and Crescent Way in Hadley Wood, The Vicarage Field site and the Crews Hill developments. Re-purposing this land for housing and other developments would have a severe and deeply concerning negative impact on the environment. Our local economy in Crews Hill centres around the nurseries and garden centres, many of them local businesses which will be wiped out under the current Local Plan.

I am also concerned about the proposed development of wildlife and wetlands areas including Rammy Marsh and Firs Farm in Bush Hill Park. These areas, both the natural marsh and the Firs Farm area are invaluable to the environment, provide opportunity for leisure and create pockets of natural green space which we cannot afford to lose.

2. The lack of affordable housing which would meet the needs of people in Enfield is a major concern in the proposed Local Plan.

Enfield has one of the highest numbers of families in temporary accommodation in London and we have an acute housing need in our Borough. The Local Plan does not adequately tackle this at all. The planned homes on the green belt will be unaffordable to those who need it most and are much more likely to attract buyers from other areas keen to find more space in outer London, than those in desperate need of housing. Encouraging buyers into the area in this way will also increase pressure of vital services including schools and health services.

The proposed high-rise buildings in Enfield Town and other areas will not provide the family-sized homes needed either and the lack of clear strategy around Meridian Water means that the opportunity for large-scale building of affordable family homes on brown and grey field sites has been missed altogether. The Local Plan is therefore devoid of a

decent strategy for meeting the very real housing shortage in Enfield and could compound the housing issues in our Borough. The needs of the most vulnerable have been ignored in favour of superficial targets.

Cllr Clare De Silva
Bush Hill Park