

Subject: Draft Local Plan : Firs Farm Wetlands Proposed Cemetery / Objection

Dear all of the above

I place my objection to this proposal as set out below.

The local authority seeks to find land and suitable sites for augmented use in respect of the purpose of burial.

It has identified Firs Farm Wetlands and its immediate not wetland vicinity as one of several other areas of existing green space, recreational and park land ; all of which appear to under the same consideration as areas to re designate.

At the same time, the local authority has confirmed a separate policy intention in respect of the provision of incremental housing capacity ; based on an estimate of expected population growth in future years. It is clear that the increased provision of housing will make that more likely if not actively to facilitate.

In which case, the existing park, recreational and green space will be serving a larger population than at present and its continued existence would seem correspondingly more crucial to the wellbeing of an augmented population .

The proposal in question would result in the diminution of space. This would appear to result in a double negative effect; not correspondingly increasing the amount of green space available (unless the authority is proposing to create more in the borough) , or even maintaining the existing, but actively withdrawing it.

As if this was not concerning enough, the possible long -term effect of the authority's intention in respect of housing is yet greater or exponential demand for burial space in future years.

The local authority/gov should also consider that in the realm of compromise that society has to make , the use of land in heavily populated areas is finite. The idea that increasing amounts of land in such areas can be most usefully designated

or prioritised for the purposes of burial ? Really ?

Turning to the Firs Farm site specifically.

The draft policy is in conflict with Strategic policy SPCL4 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 of firs farm wetlands .

The proposal will reduce the effectiveness of the flood alleviation provided by firs farm wetlands . Enfield council has invested £1 million in this provision.

The proposal will result in an increase in traffic and congestion in residential streets . This has not been properly considered in the integrated impact assessment of the local draft plan.

The policy casts an uncertain shadow over the future of Firs Farm wetlands ; encirclement for the purposes of burial , as if to discourage those living from going there and setting a disturbing precedent. The redesignation of use of land, presently in use as recreational space.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.