

Hello,

I am writing with reference to the Enfield Draft Local Plan.

I am a resident of Winchmore Hill, and have lived in the London Borough of Enfield all my life, in Enfield Chase, Oakwood and now Winchmore Hill. I am 65 years old, so I have lived here since the 1950s.

While I appreciate the need for more affordable housing in Enfield, I object to building that housing on Green Belt land in Crews Hill and along the A110, as is set out in Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11 and Policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10. One of the wonderful things about living in Enfield is that we have so much green space, and particularly that we are on the edge of the green belt. To drive from Oakwood to Enfield and see green fields, and often horses grazing is a great pleasure and improves my wellbeing. It is a precious thing to have so much green space in a place which also has such good links to central London. Visitors from outside the area are impressed that London can be so green. So please don't build on our precious green belt. Please don't spoil the character of our wonderful borough. Please find other brown field sites to build houses on.

Please also refrain from building houses at all until we know whether we really need them. With more people working from home, the 'commuter belt' has expanded to places much further from London – will new people want to move into the area, when they can work from home in Hertfordshire or Essex?

I also object to the proposed increased numbers of high rise buildings in Enfield Town as set out in Policy DE6, and SA2 Palace Gardens Shopping centre page 321. Enfield Town is a lovely commercial shopping centre with the ancient Market at its heart. Adding high rise buildings in this historic setting would spoil the character of the town, and would risk further degrading the retail experience, as the area became more of a residential / commercial office area. The addition of office space where the Genotin Road car park was (and when I was a child, the Florida Cinema!), has already started to degrade the shopping area, by overshadowing it with commercial space. Please consider instead reviving Enfield Town as a retail space, with lower rise housing over the shops, rather than building tower blocks to spoil the character of our historic town.

I hope you will consider these objections, and those of other Enfield residents before making your decisions on the Draft Local Plan. As a lifelong resident of Enfield, I love this place, and I would like future residents of this borough to love it for its history, character and green spaces as much as I have done for more than six decades.

