

RE: DRAFT LOCAL PLAN - OBJECTION

Dear Councillors,

As you will be fully aware the Mayor's 'London Plan' and the NPPF do not allow building on Green Belt so by way of this Enfield Council is **completely ignoring** the 'London Plan' and failing to acknowledge the climate emergency we were only hearing about this month and London's desperate need to retain its valuable greenspaces. This is not just an issue that effects the people of Enfield and other neighbouring boroughs but the **WHOLE** of London and its health. The Green Belt has always been known as the 'Lungs of London' beneficial to all residents in trying to keep down emissions and store value carbon. At a stage where we now have registered causes of deaths of pollution you **CANNOT** allow building on the Green Belt.

I also add I am specifically writing to object to the following 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 – all of which propose the de-designation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes. These sites are part of historic Enfield Chase, which is unique in the southeast and played an important role in the development of Enfield. It is a rare and valuable landscape asset and its loss would cause permanent harm not only to the Green Belt, but also to the very character of the borough. I also object to Policies SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 because they transfer part of Whitewebbs Park, a public amenity, into private management. I reject the Council's analysis that Whitewebbs Golf Course was losing money and call for its reinstatement. I am also objecting to Policy SA52 page 372, which would remove part of Rammey Marsh, a wildlife area and public amenity, from the Green Belt. I 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 unnecessary because other lower-rise building forms could provide the same accommodation, as stated in the policy.

I write to strongly urge you as elected representatives of the people of Enfield, to listen to your residents' views of the proposal to build on Vicarage Farm and at Crews Hill on **Green Belt** designated land. While I support housing development and the ambition to meet Enfield's housing needs, I strongly object to the proposal to release Green Belt for housing and other purposes. There are alternatives within the borough and the Green Belt is too valuable to use for the various environmental, ecological, economic, public health and other reasons, especially during the recent pandemic.

Please read more detailed and specific objections as set out below:

Specifically for Vicarage Farm "Chase Park" Enfield:

- Ignores vast amounts of brownfield sites within the borough in need of regeneration, instead going for the easy option most damaging to the environment
- 5000-8000 homes proposed by the developers likely to **double** the Highland's Ward population – how can this be justified?
- 3000 homes proposed by the Council should not be considered a compromise option, **NO** Green Belt land should be built on and the precedent it would set is alarming
- Enfield target house building of just over 1,200 per year yet a proposal of nearly **8 times**

- this amount is being put forward with a plan to **2039** (yet the London Plan runs to 2029)
- Untenable pressure placed on the local road system, notably the very busy Enfield Road, Ridgeway and Hadley Road, the first two already clogged with traffic at school/work times and not yet seen the full increases in traffic from the Chase Farm housing development including two new yet to open schools on the said same site
 - No **additional hospital or GP surgeries** facilities placing yet more strain on Chase Farm, Barnet and North Middlesex and local GPs compromising the health of your constituents
 - Massive loss of mature grassland, ancient tree and hedge habitats to numerous species including Bats, Red Kites, Buzzards, Tawny & Barn Owls, Deer, Hedgehogs, Woodpeckers and Foxes, and disruption to the precious but fragile environment which once lost can **never be replaced**
 - Loss of such a vast green area being turned over to concrete will have a direct impact on carbon absorption in the area and lead to higher heat levels from climate change
 - The new tree-planting trumpeted by the Council is not an effective offset for the wholesale loss of farmland – they will take years to mature
 - Significant construction traffic, dust and poorer air quality due to road traffic during and after completion
 - **Increase in death** and serious illness of asthma and breathing difficulties due to the massive increase of vehicles
 - Loss of recreational space – the footpaths were incredibly popular with walkers, cyclists and riders in the pandemic and continue to be so. Significant threat to health and wellbeing.
 - The developer's assertion that the housing estate will make access to Trent Park easier for town dwellers is ludicrous, those that want to go there now walk to, or park there
 - Loss of the once celebrated efforts from the anti-aircraft station off Enfield Road that helped play a significant contribution to the protection of London during WW2

Specifically for Crews Hill, Enfield:

- No consideration for the loss of green environment vital for mental wellbeing, recreation and fitness of the community
- No additional GP, hospital, schools, or leisure facilities in the Crews Hill area
- **Increase in death** and serious illness of asthma and breathing difficulties due to the massive increase of vehicles
- Lack of capacity on the transport links from Crews Hill as the trains during rush hour run at frequencies of full timetable track capacity already, overcrowding pre-Covid will be experienced by borough commuters further towards London.
- Untenable pressure placed on the local road system, notably East Lodge Lane, Cattlegate Road, both already clogged with traffic at school/work times and not yet seen the full increases in traffic from the Chase Farm housing development including two new yet to open schools on the said same site
- Loss of small businesses which are unique in the whole of north London that bring employment and revenue to the area and man visitors from the whole of north London
- Whitewebbs Golf Club was cited as closing due to other golf clubs being in the area (Crews Hill) which would close under the housing build proposals
- Loss of vital wildlife habitats, woodland, hedgerows, farm fields, meadowlands, open countryside and green spaces and mature tree soaking up the pollution and carbon from the ever saturated M25 in the locality
- Loss of recreational space – the footpaths were incredibly popular with walkers, cyclists and riders in the pandemic and continue to be so. Significant threat to health and

wellbeing.

Building on the Green Belt at either sites above is **NOT** the answer to the housing problem and from the strength of opposition and of local opinion, the same people who gave you their vote to represent them.

Please understand the strength of feeling conveyed to you in the above and act in the strongest terms to save our Green Belt from hideous development and irreparable damage.

I would be grateful of a reply from you regarding the above matter.