

Dear Enfield Council,

Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

I am writing to object to draft allocation of Firs Farm Wetlands (Site ID SA59) as a site for to be built. I oppose this policy because:

Firs Farm wetlands is a vitally important community resource, essential to the health and The draft Policy directly contradicts Strategic Policy SP CL4 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 and nature conservation interest of Firs Farm wetlands, contrary to several other policies in the draft Local Plan.

The proposal will reduce the effectiveness of the flood alleviation provided by Firs Farm wetlands; which more than £1 million of funds has been spent.

The policy introduces uncertainty into the future use of Firs Farm wetlands that jeopardises funding for projects secured by local community groups (e.g. from Thames Water) that have been endorsed and supported by Enfield Council.

In addition the policy directly conflicts with the recently adopted 'Green / Blue' Strategy.

If the Council believes that requirements exist for the build requirements – these should be allocated on a more suitable site in the Borough.

I call on the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm wetlands in this regard and find a more suitable site that does not impact on public open spaces.

