

Dear Enfield Council

I am shocked and appalled that in 2021, with all of the knowledge that we have regarding the importance of the green belt for both climate change and the protection of animals (plus all of the other countless benefits!) that I am having to write an email to my local council telling them not to cut it down.

I am a local geography teacher and even my year 7 class know that you shouldn't destroy the green belt. If it was a GCSE question the answer would clearly be "no". Yet in London in 2021 local councillors are choosing to go ahead and destroy it. And being sneaky about it - trying to get it passed before the Green Belt protection bill is passed!!

I understand the pressure in housing, but there are so many alternatives - just ask my year 7s! I do not see you using brownfield sites - there are so many derelict areas in Enfield, the reason you are choosing not to building on them is because it's into your profits! The long term impact of climate change (risk of flooding etc) will have an even bigger financial cost - not to mention environmental cost. But you don't care about that because it's likely to occur in 4+ years and it therefore it won't be your problem anymore. Disgraceful.

IT IS NOT THE RIGHT OF A FEW TO DETERMINE THE WORLD FOR THE REST OF US!! You represent the people and the people DO NOT WANT THIS! Your plans are not widely known across Enfield and such a huge decision should be made known! You have a duty of care for the people of Enfield and destroying their wildlife is not the way to do it!

Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this important consultation.

I am 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; Policy SA52 page 372; 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.

Most of these sites are part of historic Enfield Chase, which played an important role in the development of Enfield. The remaining parts of the Chase are unique in the southeast and a rare and valuable landscape asset. The loss of these sites would cause permanent harm not only to the Green Belt, but also to the very character of the borough. Vicarage Farm is crossed by the Merryhills Way footpath, much used by Enfield residents and others for exercise and relaxation and the physical and mental health attributes of the footpath would be destroyed by development. The farmland could be put back into productive use growing local food for local people. Crews Hill is equally important to the borough and should not be destroyed. Its garden centres and other businesses provide employment and a resource for people from Enfield and beyond. Instead of losing Crews Hill for housing, its horticultural activities should be encouraged and enhanced so that it can once again be a hub for food and plant production.

While I support housing development and support the ambition to meet Enfield's housing needs, I strongly object to the proposal to release Green Belt for housing or other purposes. I believe that there are alternatives available to meet housing targets and that the Green Belt is a precious resource that should be protected and preserved for future generations. It is too valuable to lose for all the many environmental, ecological, economic, public health and other reasons that have been identified, especially during the recent pandemic. The Council has a duty of care for the Green Belt, in accordance with the London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework [NPPF], and any intentions to release parts of it should be taken out of the local plan.

The comments provided in this response to the consultation are my own views.