

Dear Enfield Council,

I am writing to object to draft policy DM BG10 in the Draft Enfield Local Plan. This allocates Firs Farm Wetlands (Site ID SA59) as a site for burial and/or crematorium use. I oppose this policy because:

- My family use the facilities and space at Firs Farm Wetlands several times a week. We specifically use the proposed area for games of football rugby & cricket throughout the year, as well as for dog walking. The removal of this space will impact directly on my child & many other local children's sporting experiences.
- 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 friends of Firs Farm have been working incredibly hard over the last few years to develop this as a fantastic local community resource, including the fundraising for a proposed community café. Residents are all in favour of this, yet the local plan implementation will prevent the opportunity for this excellent community resource from coming to fruition
- 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 Enfield Council has spent more than £1 million to provide
- The proposal will adversely affect the environment and local traffic, and this has not been properly considered in the Integrated Impact Assessment of the draft Local Plan.
- 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.

I call on the Council to remove all reference to Firs Farm wetlands from Policy DM BG10."

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

