

Dear Enfield Council

Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

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.

During the pandemic I have spent much of my time walking in Enfield's Green Spaces, which was crucial in enabling me to deal with depression and anxiety during the lockdowns – and even more so after the death of my husband in March 2021. I come across many other Enfield residents also enjoying the open air in this beautiful and historic environment. Once development starts, all this will be lost – parts of historic Enfield Chase, the many public footpaths such as Merryhills Way, the farmland which could be put to productive use (especially in view of food supply chain issues following Brexit) and the horticulture and other small businesses at Crews Hill.

I understand the need to meet Enfield's housing needs, but 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. The pandemic has shown how badly people need open space and greenery for their mental health, and how those in high density housing with no easy access to the outdoors have suffered. 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.