

I have lived in Hadley Wood for more than 23 years and am a member of the Hadley Wood association. My daughter has spent all of her life in Hadley Wood and during her early years she attended the local nursery and after that Hadley Wood Primary School. My family moved into Hadley Wood because we found the locality unique, being a relatively quiet suburb surrounded by fields and wooded areas. We value all of the green spaces within Hadley Wood being part of the Green Belt, which protects the special character of an area of landscape that is ideal for walks in the countryside. I therefore object to the proposed housing development, which would allow the development of 160 homes on Green Belt land.

1. The proposed development would destroy a cherished and valuable part of the Green Belt. The Green Belt boundary should be retained and protected and future development and land use changes should be rejected because the area is a special area of landscape with historical significance.

2. The proposed development is inappropriate and this part of Hadley Wood is not suitable for further significant housing development. Hadley Wood has poor public transport links, with infrequent train and bus services leading to a low Public Transport Accessibility Level (PTAL) rating. As a result the proposed housing scheme would be reliant on car transportation. There are also very limited local amenities, no GP, no post office, no secondary school, the primary school already oversubscribed and local employment is just about non-existent. As a result the proposed housing scheme would be reliant on car transportation to reach amenities in Cockfosters, Barnet or Potters Bar which are areas that already experience significant road congestion during peak times.

3. The proposed development would harm wildlife and biodiversity. Destroying 11 hectares of fields to build new homes would be an inefficient use of open land that serves an important purpose. The proposed development would also contradict Enfield's green policies and the declaration by the Council of a climate emergency. This area of wildlife habitat has a unique ecology and should not be destroyed for the purpose of further housing development when there are alternative more suitable brownfield sites elsewhere within the borough of Enfield.

4. Increasing the housing density in the vicinity of Hadley Wood station would be inappropriate and detrimental for residents. The proposed additional housing to be added between, behind and above existing homes cannot be considered to be sustainable development and such high density development would not be appropriate for a small suburb such as Hadley Wood which is surrounded by green belt. Enfield borough's needs for additional housing could be more suitably achieved by building in areas where high density housing is the norm and where there are sufficient local amenities and transport infrastructure to cope with the additional residents that would result from the new housing developments.

Would you please therefore remove this proposed housing development from the next edition of the Local Plan and conserve the green belt status of this area of land and other similar areas within Hadley Wood.

