

To Enfield Planning Department,

One of the most important role of Local Councils - not just Enfield - is to work to create the best possible environment for citizens.

Optimising both the built and natural environment for living, leisure, work and health, demands that a broad perspective be taken to each of these elements, to ensure decisions taken to resolve one challenge do not adversely impact the others.

I first moved to this area 30 years ago and object to the proposed development of Site SA45 in Hadley Wood. This is green belt land and in an area of special character and is an essential part of the heritage area that is Hadley Wood. It is used by walkers, cyclists and nature lovers and provides valuable green space and trees to assist in creating a more environmentally sustainable planet. Every small space helps in this regard. Finally, as a small village, Hadley Wood does not have the infrastructure to support an additional 160 households.

I recognise that provision of good quality housing is important and so too is the preservation of green spaces for leisure, wildlife, health and the environment.

Optimising the use of all brownfield sites is the best way to achieve a balance in delivering the needs of current and future generations, for the following reasons

- it regenerates valuable inner city areas that are no longer delivering value for citizens
- It returns life to an area/space that detracts and devalues a local community - often attracting vandalism and anti social behaviour, leading to spaces feeling unsafe
- it makes use of sites that are already connected to exiting services and amenities, such as utilities, healthcare, schools etc. This avoids putting pressure on infrastructure that is not built to service a larger community

AND

- it preserves green spaces for the benefit of future generations. Once lost, valuable countryside cannot be restored.

The areas of green space in Enfield are a precious resource that should be preserved and nurtured for the benefit and health of us all.

Enfield Council would become a leader in the country and a beacon of good practice, if it would commit to a strategy of not considering building on any green belt land until ALL brownfield sites have been fully redeveloped to deliver optimum benefit.

I call on Enfield Council to show real leadership and visionary thinking in the way that it supports the needs of the community by NOT destroying precious greenfield areas, including in Hadley Wood.

