

To whom it may concern,

The Twentieth Century Society has been alerted to Enfield's Draft Local Plan. We apologise that our response is one day late, but hope you will still consider our comments.

The Society notes the inclusion of the site called 'SA5: Enfield Civic Centre' in the draft local plan and is concerned that it is described as one of a 'number of key development sites' in the borough (p.41). The Society considers the Enfield Civic Centre to be of local heritage significance and believe it should be treated as a non-designated heritage asset (NDHA).

The civic centre was built in 1957-75 by Eric Broughton & Associates. Its architectural and historic interest is indicated by its inclusion in contemporary and recent architectural texts. Significantly, it is recorded in Pevsner's *London: North* volume of the *Buildings of England* series. This notes the 'Dominant twelve-storey tower at N end of the site, clad in stainless steel, of 1972-5 by Eric G. Broughton & Assocs [...] The first phase, 1957-61 by the same firm, is a satisfying composition, consisting of a long brick administration range with upper floor projecting over a blue brick base, and the Council Chamber to the rear reached by a bridge from the main stairs. In front, a pool created from a loop of the New River; bronze sculpture of the Enfield Beast by R. Bentley Claughton. Inside, in the stairwell, an applique wall panel by Gerald Holtom'.

The Twentieth Century Society urges the local authority not to earmark the Enfield Civic Centre as a potential development site. We believe the existing complex is an NDHA which makes a positive contribution to the character and distinctiveness of the local area. In the Society's view, the Enfield Civic Centre should be retained and put to a viable use consistent with its conservation.

Paragraph 189 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2021) should be considered: 'Heritage assets range from sites and buildings of local historic value to those of the highest significance [...] These assets are an irreplaceable resource, and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations'. Paragraph 190 of the NPPF should also be noted: Plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment [...] This strategy should take into account: a) the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets, and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation; b) the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; c) the desirability of new development making a positive

contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and d) opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.'

We hope these comments are of use to you. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.