

Strategic Planning and Design,  
ENFIELD COUNCIL, FREEPOST, NW5036,  
EN1 3BR

30 August 2021

Dear Enfield Council

Enfield Local Plan Consultation

Response to the Draft Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this important consultation.

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 SA62 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.

All these sites are part of historic Enfield Chase an area of land of immense historical importance that has largely remained untouched for the last 1000 years which has played an important role in our local heritage and the development of Enfield. The remaining parts of the Chase are unique in the southeast and a rare and valuable landscape and ecological asset. The loss of these sites would cause permanent harm not only to the Green Belt, but also to the very character of the borough. Vicarage Farm is crossed by the Merryhills Way footpath, much-used by Enfield residents and others for exercise and relaxation and the physical and mental health attributes of the footpath would be destroyed by development. The farmland could be put back into productive use growing local food for local people. Crews Hill is equally important to the borough and should not be destroyed. Its popular garden centres and other businesses provide employment and resources for people from Enfield and beyond. A fact borne out by the hundreds of people that visit on a regular basis. Instead of losing Crews Hill for housing, its horticultural activities should be encouraged and enhanced so that it can once again be a hub for food and plant production.

While I support housing development and support the ambition to meet Enfield's housing needs, 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 that are far more suitable to allow integration of the additional housing within the established infrastructure of schools, shops and community facilities with the minimum disruption rather than recreating it on Green Belt. The Green Belt is a precious resource that should be protected and preserved for future generations. It is too valuable to lose for all the many environmental, ecological, economic, public health and other reasons that have been identified, especially during the recent pandemic. 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.

Regards,