

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

Dear Enfield Council

**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 SA52 page 372; and Policy SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279 – all of which propose the dedesignation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes.

Most of these sites are part of historic Enfield Chase, which played an important role in the development of Enfield. The remaining parts of the Chase are unique in the southeast and a rare and valuable landscape 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 garden centres and other businesses provide employment and a resource for people from Enfield and beyond. 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 and that 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 Green belt is in place to stop London expanding and should be kept in the place. The councils of London should be protecting this above everything by looking for sensible places to build the houses that are needed, not taking away our valuable green farm space, which is needed to grow food that can be sourced locally. Keeping down the food miles. With climate change, increasing pollution from an ever expanding population and a huge decrease in the amount of land for food growth, the constant bombardment about the environment from world leaders seems very hypocritical when all we see throughout the country is new housing estates going up, regardless of local people objecting.

If all these building works do go ahead, where are the plans for more schools, doctors, dentists, hospitals and better road systems to provide for the new members of the community to use. Our public services are already overloaded and our roads over crowded and poorly maintained. Having this huge influx of people into the borough will make the situation a whole lot worse. Please think long and hard before totally destroying the beautiful and historic countryside that made Enfield such a special borough to live in.

The comments provided in this response to the consultation are my own views.

Regards

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