

September 10th, 2021

Strategic Planning and Design
ENFIELD COUNCIL
FREEPOST NW5036
EN1 3BR

Dear Enfield Council,

Enfield Council – Draft Local Plan

I am writing to object to the council's local plan for development on Enfield's Green Belt. The Green Belt defines Enfield and is what makes it such an admirable London borough. Development on all the sites mentioned in the local plan is totally irreversible and will completely destroy Enfield's landscape and ruin the borough's charm and natural aesthetics. I understand more affordable housing is needed within the M25 but the draft local plan aims to exhaust our beautiful Green Belt which is an obscene and devastating solution. The fact that the disruption of the Green Belt is being discussed is completely deplorable.

I 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.

It is highly commendable that the Council have planted a vast amount of trees to increase London's Lungs but this then becomes a travesty if it is offset against destroying hundreds of acres of beautiful Green Belt land. 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 removed from the plan.

I am the owner and Director of Thompsons of Crews Hill Ltd; therefore, I strongly object to the development in Crews Hill (policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and concept plan Figure 3.10). In the Enfield Local Plan Regulation 18 stage, Enfield Council's vision for 2039 for the affordable housing in the green belt is quoted as being undertaken in early 2021 (Spatial vision & objectives, Introduction, point 2.3.2). I believe the Council has been far from transparent about this proposed development as I have been receiving letters from developers since 2015. I own 13.5 acres of the proposed development land and have had no communication or consultation at any time during the formulation of the Local Plan.

My family have been running this site since 1948 when the Crews Hill area was part of the Lea Valley which produced fruit and vegetables for the whole of London and the Home Counties. In the late eighties we diversified through necessity to supply the same areas with soils, composts, turf and more recently plants. We have been enhancing London's gardens and green spaces for the last 40

years through our extensive client base which includes most London Council's, NHS Trusts, Landscape Designers and householders. Our domestic customers have increased greatly during the last eighteen months due to the Covid Pandemic.

Crews Hill is well known for being the biggest concentration of garden centres in Europe. It attracts masses of garden lovers nationwide throughout the whole year which brings a lot of trade and revenue to Enfield and provides thousands of jobs. We currently have 45 employees (and increasing), most of whom have mortgages and families to support. The ELP does not adequately provide for businesses like ourselves to be able to relocate within the borough.

Certain councillors have been quoted as saying that parts of the green belt are a disgrace. In my opinion this is due to the lack of funding for Enfield enforcement teams which has been allowed to continue to suit the Councils 'vision'.

All elected councillors have a duty to represent the views of not only the voters who put them into office, but the entire population of the borough they represent. I would strongly urge you to listen to the people of Enfield and rethink this plan, particularly the parts that affect our precious Green Belt.