

22.7.2021

Dear Sirs

Ref: Proposed Site Allocation No SA₄₅

I am writing to lodge my strong objection to the proposal to build 160 new homes on the Green Belt land between Camlet Way and Crescent West in Hadley Wood.

Enfield Council's most recent Characterisation Study refers to this very area as follows:

"a special area of landscape character which is a major asset for the borough. It is of both landscape and historic significance".

It goes on to state:

"The existing Green Belt boundary should be retained and protected, and future development and land use changes resisted".

Your very words say it all. However I would add that the site sits within a Conservation Area and it is impossible to build on it without adversely affecting the character of the area. Apart from your proposal now setting out to destroy what Enfield Council only recently stated was of landscape and historic significance, there are a number of other very important issues which your proposal does not address.

1. The area is not sustainable. There are very limited local amenities. Although the proposed development is sited behind a small train station which serves Moorgate and Kings Cross, all residents of this new development will require a car to drive to the supermarket, the GP, the dentist and the primary and secondary schools. Hadley Wood is a 10 minute car journey away from Barnet shopping centre and High Barnet underground station and a 12-15 minute car drive away from Cockfosters (and its underground station).
2. Hadley Wood has a myriad of underground streams which cause flooding in many gardens, mine being one but I know of many others. Parts of Hadley Wood are in Flood Zone 3 and this development will inevitably affect these underground streams and increase the flood risk for the surrounding areas. We already know that the sewers and flood defences are insufficient to protect the existing dwellings.
- 3 The Plan has not prioritised brownfield sites. While of course building on the Green Belt is the easier option, it is surely our responsibility to do everything possible to prioritise the building of new homes on those sites which do not directly contravene Enfield's stated green policies for the protection of its green spaces and bio diversity, not least when we are all grappling with the impact of climate change.

