
To Enfield Council Local Plan

We have lived in Hadley Wood for 35 years. Our children grew up and attended one of the local Hadley Wood schools. From the day we moved into Hadley Wood we have been members of the Hadley Wood Association.

In that time we have seen a range of small developments such as infilling and the replacement of some of the larger houses with 'small' blocks of apartments. Some of this development, especially on the south side of Camlet Way, has had a direct impact on our immediate area with regular flooding in ours' and neighbouring gardens as well as in the woods. Surely a large scale development 'up the hill' can only cause greater flooding down toward Bartrams Lane, the playing fields, Crescent West and beyond.

As a 'foot note' – over the years we have often walked along Bartrams Lane and in the playing fields. This year we've noticed, more frequently, running water in Bartrams Lane and the playing fields have regularly been 'saturated' with surface water after even short periods of heavy rainfall.

Thinking about 'sustainability' – even though there is a station in the heart of Hadley Wood there is a single and infrequent bus service that runs between Cockfosters underground station and Barnet. There isn't even a direct link by any form of public transport to Enfield Town!

The small parade of shops in 'the' Crescent has a convenience store with the nearest 'supermarket' a car drive away in Potters Bar. There is a small dental practice however there isn't a NHS surgery within walking distance.

We've seen a growth of traffic, especially during morning and afternoon, causing ever lengthening queues at all the exit/entry points to Hadley Wood, especially at the Barnet end of Camlet Way outside two of the local schools. Looking at the plan for this unsustainable and inappropriate development the only exit points are either onto Camlet Way or Crescent West!

As you can 'see' many cars journeys are already essential, with the plan for 160 houses car journeys by new residents will only be adding to traffic pollution and congestion, contrary to policies for cycling and walking and to the whole rationale for a major development near a main line station.

The Green Belt is intended to separate areas of urban development. Hadley Wood is on the very edge of that Green Belt – an area of open fields and meadows between Barnet and Potters Bar, separated by the M25. Preserving this Green Belt can only help air quality and biodiversity.

Surely it cannot be right to plan for the certain and irretrievable loss of this Green Belt so essential to our environment for a 160 additional houses that 'might' never be required based on uncertain projections for 25,000 houses needed over twenty years. When, in that time, other

more appropriate brownfield sites will become available including many owned by Enfield Council.

It's not clear to us how Enfield Council have concluded in their 'Local Plan' that these special fields should be removed from Green Belt and developed for residential housing.

To that effect can you please therefore remove this proposed Green Belt site allocation from the next edition of the Local Plan and retain the Green Belt status for the land.