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To Whom It May Concern,

Hadley Wood has been our home for 25 years. During this time we have enjoyed living in this special area close to woods, meadows and the Green Belt; a feeling intensified during lockdown which re-invigorated our appreciation for nature and the reason we chose to settle here in the first place.

However this unique locality which incorporates two Conservation Areas, is now under threat with the possible development of 160 homes on Green Belt land and we feel compelled to write and lodge our objection to this proposed site allocation.

The Green Belt here serves a purpose. It offers a natural boundary between towns, provides an oasis for residents and walkers, a haven for wildlife and promotes biodiversity. Present national and local policies wish to promote green issues and counteract the effects of climate change, but such a development in Hadley Wood will achieve the opposite.

Hadley Wood has already endured, and continues to do so, substantial over-development, which has resulted in issues with surface water run-off. The proposed site has a sloping topography, the lower part of which is in a flood area for a main Enfield river. Such development, along with increased rainfall, will create a further threat of flooding to those in lower areas and those downstream. It is definitely not an appropriate place to build.

Additionally, Hadley Wood has minimal shops and services (no NHS GP to our knowledge) and the only local primary school is up to capacity. Buses operate a limited daytime service only and the trains are for commuters into London. From an environmental perspective, the influx of new residents will undoubtedly result in an increase in car usage adding to congestion, traffic pollution and a reduction in air quality close to the school and playground.

Please remove this proposed site allocation from the next edition of the Local Plan, retain the green belt status and help conserve the green space for future generations and the unique heritage of our local area.

Thank you.