

Local Plan - Site SA45 – Land between Camlet Way and Crescent West, Hadley Wood

We moved to Hadley Wood in 1995, initially at 78 Lancaster Avenue and at the above address since 2002. We use and enjoy the beautiful amenities in the area daily, not least walking down Bartram's Lane to the field with our dogs. It is no exaggeration to say that this area is unique and very special, benefiting from many Grade II listed properties, set against beautiful green belt.

The council is respectfully invited to reflect very carefully on the irreversible damage which would be done to this jewel of a neighbourhood by the development of 160 homes on green belt land.

Please therefore kindly take note of our formal objection to the proposal, on the bases set out below.

The council has been made well aware, by other residents, of the following significant objections, which we support. These are listed below, but not reiterated in detail.

1. It would be an unnecessary and sizable destruction of Green Belt.
2. It would not be a sustainable development.
3. The Local Plan has failed to develop and prioritise all available brownfield sites.
4. The site is surrounded by Conservation Areas and Grade II listed buildings.
5. It would be inconsistent with the council's own Climate Change Action Plan.

In addition to these considerations, we would respectfully invite the council to consider an additional and highly material issue.

6. The council will have been aware of proposals in Westminster to overhaul planning laws in the Planning Bill due this autumn. Among the proposals were plans for councils to be ordered to build a number of homes each year, and to be sanctioned if they failed. The council may be forgiven for being influenced by this threat, and so therefore

entertaining controversial schemes, such as the one under discussion. However, it now appears that ministers are set to abandon the most contentious parts of the Planning Bill, including the mandatory house building targets, described by MPs as ‘electorally toxic’.