
Dear Sirs,

Re: Draft Local Plan

I am writing to **object** to the following policies which propose the re-designation of Green Belt for housing and other purposes.

[Policy SP PL 10, pages 80-87, and Figure 3.11](#) - 3,000 new houses at a 'deeply green' 'sustainable urban extension' referred to as 'Chase Park' (also known as Vicarage Farm) on the open Green Belt countryside next to Trent Park either side of the A110 (Enfield Road) between Oakwood and Enfield town

[Policy SP PL9, pages 77-80 and Concept Plan Figure 3.10](#)) - 3,000 new houses in a 'sustainable settlement' at Crews Hill with the potential for longer term expansion up to 7,500 new homes right up to the M25.

[SA45: Land Between Camlet Way and Crescent Way, Hadley Wood, page 364](#)) - 160 homes in Green Belt countryside at Hadley Wood.

These sites are part of Enfield Chase which has huge historic importance and played a significant role in the development of Enfield. It is an invaluable landscape asset and its destruction would cause permanent damage not only to the Green Belt, but also to the very character of our borough.

The benefits of Green Belt land in terms of public health, environment, ecology and the economy are very well recognised and our Green Belt must not be allowed to be sacrificed to the urban sprawl and the economic costs that inevitably follow. Traffic will dramatically increase in the affected areas leading to elevated levels of pollution and higher health care costs for diseases like asthma. Productive farmland will be lost and local residents will no longer be able to take walks and relax in easily accessible countryside and open spaces. Playing fields and country parks with the many benefits they bring in terms of sports and recreation will be gone forever.

In addition, the **Eco-system** benefits provided by different types of open land are enormous and include improved air quality, flood protection and carbon absorption (especially woodland areas), urban cooling as well as local food production. They also provide varied habitat to sustain wildlife.

Current Green Belt protection policy aims to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open and urges Local Authorities to maximise the use of suitable brownfield sites before considering changes to Green Belt boundaries. It affirms that these protected lands should be enhanced to provide more benefits in future and to ensure that local residents enjoy open land and countryside near built up areas which is particularly important these days in view of the recent stressful and turbulent times that we have all experienced.

A far better alternative would be to encourage the regeneration of existing derelict urban sites so the emphasis should be on building affordable homes where they will bring regeneration to deprived areas.

Preserve the Green. Regenerate the Grey.