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To Whom It May Concern,

I am keen to participate in the Consultation but could not seem to get the online form working.

In relation to the plans to build more housing, it does not seem to be made clear as to whether or not they (as well as how many) will be designated as Council homes. It would not be realistic to build all this housing if nothing or a very small percentage thereof will be Council Housing. For the vast majority of residents, the private sector is simply not affordable and hence an increase in Council Housing is the only viable option in tackling the housing crisis.

Further, in terms of the plans to build on 7% of rural land in the Borough, this seemingly undermines ambitions to increase biodiversity. There is undoubtedly a very urgent need for more trees (especially evergreen trees) to be planted, thereby 're wilding' such areas that have lost their trees and biological diversity over the years. As such, it seems counter intuitive to build on any more Green Belt Land, considering what has already happened in Trent Park and the fact that Green Belt Land has been under incessant pressure for years if not decades. Indeed many parts of it have already been lost over time. In light of this, it makes far more sense to utilise all urban Brown Field Sites as far as possible, possibly incentivising landowners where appropriate, in order to save the Green Belt Land. Building more housing, affordable or otherwise, would be futile if we were to be left without Green Belt Land and thereby deprived of oxygen.

