

Council: Tuesday 19 October 2021

**Amendment to Administration Motion: Cllr Kath McGuirk
Protecting Our Green Belt**

Delete all and replace with:

Council notes that:

1. The Mayor of London proposed robust protections of London's Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) in his draft London Plan including that any de-designation of Green Belt would not be supported, and that MOL should be afforded the same protections as the Green Belt.

2. The Conservative Government through their Planning Inspectorate suggested, and later imposed, amendments that reduced the Mayor's protections of the Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land. These Government imposed amendments were:

- To make Green Belt and MOL policies consistent with national planning policy
- In Policy G2:
 - o to allow development proposals that would harm the Green Belt 'if very special circumstances exist'
 - o to allow the boundaries of Green Belt to be altered 'in exceptional circumstances'
- In Policy G3:
 - o to delete that "Development proposals that would harm MOL should be refused." and "that the quantum of MOL is not reduced..."

3. The Mayor of London objected to these amendments and urged the Government to change its position.

4. The Government did not change its position and these protections to Green Belt and MOL have now been reduced and removed from the London Plan.

5. The Government have imposed the massive 1,350 property over-development scheme at North London Business Park, and, as a result, the developer has now come back with an even larger scheme for 2,500 homes.

6. Conservative councillors on Barnet's Planning Committee have agreed development schemes to build out of character tower blocks of up to 27 storeys across Barnet including in Colindale, West Hendon and most recently, Cricklewood on the B&Q site.

7. There are concerns that LB Barnet's regeneration plans for North Finchley are likely to include high-rise tower blocks, including on Lodge Lane car park because the Conservative administration will not stand-up to developers.

8. The Government's ridiculous housing targets will mean even more tower blocks in the future.

Council believes that:

1. There must be no development on or de-designation of the Green Belt.
2. Metropolitan Open Land should not be reduced.
3. Our suburbs must be protected from over-development.

Council resolves to:

1. Protect our Green Belt and MOL from development
2. During the Local Plan's inspection stage, make any amendments necessary to protect our suburbs and stop overdevelopment