

From:
Sent: 27 October 2011 12:01
To: LDF
Cc: Heather
Subject: Objection to proposed re-designation
Dear Sir/Madam

Re: The former Friern Barnet Sewage Treatment Site

No matter how you dress it up by changing the status of land from employment to industrial, the loss of any protection for the nature conservation value of the above site would be detrimental to the natural and local environment. Therefore I object most strongly to its re-designation to Locally Significant Industrial Use. The following text explains my objections more fully.

I formally request an assessment of the eco systems and natural habitats on the site - which is one of only nine sites designated Grade 1 of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation - to determine its nature conservation value. The Government has now provided the tools for conducting such an assessment which should form the basis of any proposed re-designation.

The updated Sustainability Appraisal which has been produced by Hyder Consulting UK Limited does not contain any new evidence to support this re-designation; on the contrary, it points out the threat to the biodiversity of the site.

The NLWA and Barnet Council have submitted a joint planning application for their use of the site which Haringey Council currently have 'on hold'. It would seem that the re-designation of the site would assist the ambitions of the former, whilst placing the latter in a position of conducting a consultation that would "appear to be prejudicial to the interests of fairness and natural justice".

Has Haringey considered whether alternative designations would be appropriate - e.g. Metropolitan Open Land, Local Green Space designation or Green Grid cross-boundary green space, connecting Barnet, Haringey and Enfield ?

The Council's own records show, in relation to the Friern Barnet site in particular, that any development on the site has potential to have biodiversity impacts, because it is a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.

Finally, the Government has just concluded its consultation with regard to National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG). It would be premature to re-designate in advance of consideration of the NPPG which should then lead to consultation on the Core Strategy i.e. the overall plan for the Borough

Yours faithfully

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