

HOUNSLOW LOCAL PLAN: EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC

Matter 9 Allocated Sites in West of Borough including proposed Green Belt releases, Site 57 (Wednesday 13 May)

Statement of Marie Rabouhans on behalf of the West Chiswick and Gunnersbury Society (WCGS) (REP 048)

26th April 2026

Introduction

1 WCGS is commenting on this issue because the protection of London's Green Belt is a matter of principle and of fundamental importance not only for the entire Borough of Hounslow but also for London as a whole. We note that the amount of Green Belt to be released for development has now been reduced. However, we maintain our view, expressed at the Examination in Public in 2021 and in our comments on the Reg 19 consultation in October 2024 that Hounslow Council's arguments for de-designating Green Belt do not constitute "exceptional circumstances".

Question 9 The requirements of development proposals in Policy P2(c) are not justified with respect to Hatton Fields (Site 57) for the reasons we gave in our submission of 12th December 2025 on Matter 4.

In summary: the release of part of Hatton Fields from the Green Belt is not justified as there are compelling reasons to retain the whole of Hatton Fields as open green space. Building on part of Hatton Fields will have a negative impact on the visual quality and openness of the remainder and compromise the Council's ability to create a bigger, better and more joined up ecological network. Maintaining the integrity of Hatton Fields, by retaining the whole area within the Green Belt would allow the realisation of its great potential with respect to biodiversity and nature recovery and other NPPF stated Green Belt opportunities.

We fully endorse the recent submissions to this Examination in Public on this question made by the Friends of Hatton Fields (Rep 49), by FORCE (Rep 110) and that from Sarah L. Houghton dated 19.4.26. We would draw attention to the points raised in the latter comments concerning LBH's Nature Recovery Action Plan and its draft Climate Change Resilience Plan.

Conclusion In order for the Local Plan to be sound it is essential that Land at Hatton Fields (Site 57) is removed in its entirety from Policy P2 together with all references to Hatton Fields elsewhere within the Local Plan.

WCGS

26th April 2026