

## CABINET – 17 JULY 2014

### RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC QUESTION

1.

**Questioner** Caroline Ennis, The Pinner Association

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**Asked of:** Councillor Sue Anderson, Portfolio Holder for Community, Culture and Resident Engagement

**Question:** “What evidence can you provide that demonstrates that you have followed the correct consultation procedure for the scoping and options with regard to the future planning and development of the Pinner Park Farm site?”

**Response:** As set out in the published audio recording.

**Supplemental Question:** Can you explain how the Council came to the conclusion that there needed to be a change of use from agricultural Green Belt Land to a Country Park; and in particular what evidence did you have, prior to commissioning a development proposal, that this is what the majority of Harrow residents’ wanted when there are many other options which have come to light for this land?

**Written Response:** Currently Pinner Park farm is designated as agricultural land but turning it into a country park (for example) would involve a change of use but would not affect its designation as Green Belt. The Council is not intending to change the Green Belt designation. Any intention to remove the designation would have to be part of a Local Plan review which would be subject to rigorous public consultation and could only be justified in exceptional circumstances - National Planning Policy Framework  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf) (paragraph 83)

This informal consultation was intended to find out what ideas and views residents had about the future use of this 230 acres of green belt, and whether there should be increased opportunities to access this historic site.

This is in line with the responsibilities laid upon councils by the National Planning Policy Framework (see web-link above) (paragraph 81) to make positive plans to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. This can include opportunities to improve access, opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retaining and enhancing landscapes, maintaining and improving visual amenity and biodiversity; and improving damaged and derelict land.