

**Public Inquiry into Appeal by Helioslough Ltd
Site at land in and around Former Aerodrome,
North Orbital Road,
Upper Colne Valley.
Hertfordshire**

**Summary of the Proof of
evidence by Adrian Wallace on
behalf of STRiFE**

Green Belt

Introduction

- 1.1 My name is Adrian Wallace and I appear at this public inquiry on behalf of STRiFE. STRiFE is a local community group from a variety of professions, religions and backgrounds, set up to represent local residents on the appellant's proposals to develop a Strategic Rail Freight Interchange on the site of the former Radlett Aerodrome.
- 1.2 My full evidence tried to articulate the views of the local community. STRiFE evidence does not aim to trespass on the professionals' territory, rather we seek to offer a local perspective.

Scope of evidence

- 1.3 My evidence focuses on the local Green Belt and the likely impact if this proposal goes ahead, using a substantial amount of my own experience of using and enjoying the local Green Belt. However, my enjoyment of the local countryside demonstrated is typical of many people.

Green Belt in the Local Environment

- 1.4 I use personal experience to demonstrate the unquantifiable benefit that families like my own get from the use of the local Green Belt. I use photos in the full paper to demonstrate my experience of accessing the countryside and the numerous benefits that this provides.

The proposal and the Likely Impact

- 1.5 I question the benefits of a country park which makes so little sense when there is already good (free) access to the countryside.
- 1.6 My evidence focuses on the adverse effect of the proposals on the Green Belt which include the sacrifice of a hugely important Green Belt area, the coalescence of numerous settlements, the disappearance of Hedges Farm (and the animals on the farm visited by many local families), the loss of views of open countryside and the detrimental effect on the setting of the historic city of St Albans.
- 1.7 I make clear that the proposal seems to conflict with every single national Green Belt objective.

This Proposal and Planning Policy

- 1.8 I make clear in my evidence the extent to which this proposal conflicts with planning policy both nationally and locally.

Impact of the Proposed Development

- 1.9 I set out my views of the impact of the proposals with particular reference to Areas 1 and 3 and I make reference to and quote from the Inspector's Report.

Conclusion

- 1.10 I conclude by noting that this proposal would run roughshod over the local Green Belt. It would bring extraordinary devastation to the local environment and would have a hugely detrimental impact on local communities, families and individuals.