**I object to BROOKLANDS development W4 W5 W6**

The conversion of farmland to housing development will have several significant impacts:

**Increase in Air, Water, Noise, and Landfill Pollution**: Construction activities + 1400 homes will generate pollutants such as dust, noise, and chemicals. These harm air quality, contaminate water sources, and disrupt ecosystems.

**Natural Resources Loss**: Converting farmland to housing reduces available land for agriculture and wildlife habitats, leading to biodiversity loss.

**Population Fragmentation and Biodiversity Loss**: Urban development fragments natural habitats, affecting wildlife movement and biodiversity. The conversion of farmland to housing can lead to habitat loss and fragmentation, threatening local and regional biodiversity.

This land at Brooklands has native protective species including the slow worm. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) all native reptiles, including slow worms, are listed as rare and most threatened species under Section 41 of this act.

Urban structures act as barriers to animal movement. This will prevent animals from accessing food, mates, and other resources. Also disrupt the life cycles of many species and lead to local extinctions.

**Waste Generation**: Construction generates substantial waste, including materials like concrete, wood, and plastics.

[**Climate Change**: Contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, impacting the global climate](https://environmentgo.com/effects-of-construction-on-the-environment-negative-and-positive/). Farmland sequesters carbon, so its loss will contribute to climate change.

[**Risk of Flooding**: Building on farmland will increase flood risk, especially as this land is in a functional floodplain](https://environmentgo.com/effects-of-construction-on-the-environment-negative-and-positive/).

**Food Security**: The loss of productive farmland will threaten food security. The increased risk of severe flooding caused by climate change will further challenge food security in the future. More than 200,000 hectares – or 60% – of England’s finest Grade 1 agricultural land is within areas at the highest risk of flooding.