

For the attention of **Andrew Dillon**, Principal Planning Officer, Major Project Team
London Borough of Barnet, Development Management & Building Control Service
Barnet House
1255 High Road
London N20 0EJ

Via email to andrew.dillon@barnet.gov.uk

21 December 2016

Dear Mr Dillon,

Re: 16/6662/FUL Hasmonian High School, 2-4 Page Street, London, NW7 2EU

I am writing to **object** to this application on behalf our members.

CPRE London is the London branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England. We are a membership based charity concerned with the protection and enhancement of London's Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and urban open and green spaces. We have over 2,700 members across London.

Reasons for objection:

- The proposed site is Green Belt and this proposal would be inappropriate development in Green Belt
- There are no very special circumstances: there may be a generalised need for school places but there are generalised needs for much development in London and this is not in itself a very special circumstance
- It does not appear that all reasonable attempts have been made to find alternatives: it appears instead that the 'easy' option (easy in terms of finding space) has been pursued without due consideration of the 'strongest protection' constraint which applies to the relevant land
- The harm to the Green Belt would outweigh any benefits: London's Green Belt has enormous strategic importance for all of London - not simply in this area and not simply in Barnet. Its importance is:
 - In halting urban sprawl which increases burdens on individuals and the state and increases air pollution among other problems. This development in particular would contribute in a severe negative way to increased traffic emissions
 - Increasingly London's Green Belt has strategic importance for improving air quality and water and flood management

- There are also a myriad of benefits to local people in terms of recreation and enjoyment, but also to wildlife and ecology, which would be lost if this development were to go ahead.

Please could you place these comments before the committee.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely
Alice Roberts
Green Spaces Officer
CPRE London