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WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Warrington Borough Council

Local Plan

Preferred Development Option

Regulation 18 Consultation

Standard Response Form

July 2017

2: Questions

Question 1

Do you have any comments to make about how we've worked out the need for new homes and employment land in Warrington over the next 20 years?

Response: See question 17

Question 2

Do you have any comments to make about how we've worked out the number of homes and amount of employment land that can be accommodated within Warrington's existing built up areas?

Response:

Question 3

Have we appropriately worked out the amount of land to be released from the Green Belt, including the amount of land to be 'safeguarded'?

Response:

Question 4

Do you agree with the new Local Plan Objectives?

Response:

Question 5

Do you have any comments to make about how we've assessed different 'Spatial Options' for Warrington's future development?

Response:

Question 6

Do you have any comments to make about how we've assessed different options for the main development locations?

Response:

Question 7

Do you agree with our Preferred Development Option for meeting Warrington's future development needs?

Response:

Question 8

Do you have any comments to make about our Preferred Development Option for the City Centre?

Response:

Question 9

Do you have any comments to make about our Preferred Development Option for the Wider Urban Area?

Response:

Question 10

Do you have any comments to make about our Preferred Development Option for developing the Warrington Waterfront?

Response:

Question 11

Do you have any comments to make about our Preferred Development Option for the Warrington Garden City Suburb?

Response:

Question 12

Do you have any comments to make about our Preferred Development Option for the South Western Urban Extension?

Response:

Question 13

Do you have any comments to make about our Preferred Development Option for development in the Outlying Settlements?

Response:

Question 14

Do you agree with our approach to providing new employment land?

Response:

Question 15

Do you agree with our suggested approach for dealing with Gypsy and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople sites?

Response:

Question 16

Do you agree with our suggested approach for dealing with Minerals and Waste?

Response:

Question 17

Having read the Preferred Development Option Document, is there anything else you feel we should include within the Local Plan?

Response: On behalf of CAWOS we would ask you to consider the loss of bird life in the area of the plan, and to consider mitigation issues for birds and wildlife.

There are at least two Red List bird species present and breeding in the proposed area: Yellowhammer and House Sparrow. Yellowhammer can be heard singing in the Wright's Green area of south Warrington (an area that would be affected) House sparrows breed widely throughout south Warrington and importantly use hedgerows to feed and roost. The proposed development would remove masses of hedgerows with the resultant loss of breeding habitat and insects etc.

Parr's Wood at Grappenhall Heys(a Woodland Trust site) holds important bird numbers, in particular a Heronry that regularly holds breeding pairs. Twelve pairs bred there in 2017. Herons regularly use ditches and ponds near to the wood to feed and these will be covered by houses if the proposed plan goes ahead. The wood supports a Rookery, the birds feeding on nearby farmland and so will be adversely affected. Parr's Wood is an important feeding site for Swifts in cool weather. Swifts are Amber listed with nationally a fall of 51% in breeding numbers since 1995. All the indications are that Swift will become Red listed in the very near future. House Martins have been breeding for many years on properties at Grappenhall Heys and use the fields and woodland margins nearby to feed. The same applies to Swallows that still breed on a few local farms though their breeding numbers have reduced dramatically in the area as a result of barn conversions. Both are Amber listed. Buzzards are common breeders in the south Warrington area but the building that is being proposed will obviously reduce small mammal numbers on which they rely. Kestrels breeds most years in Parr's Wood, another Amber listed species. Many common species are bound to be adversely affected by the reduction in insect numbers.