


Planning Policy Team, Warrington Borough Council,  
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I am writing to protest strongly at the proposed destruction of the green and pleasant environment, which Warrington should be proud of.

I have been a Warrington resident for over  years, and like all my neighbours and friends in Warrington, I choose to live here because of the largely unspoilt natural environment.

All the residential areas of : Appleton; Appleton Thorn; Grappenhall; Stockton Heath; Stretton and Lymm, all have green space between them, spaces where we can walk or cycle with our children and grandchildren, where we can breath and enjoy some open space.

After attending "Local Plan consultation meetings" it seems that there is an appetite to destroy these environments and turn South Warrington into a suburban sprawl by inviting profit hunting developers to build thousands of homes and commercial property on greenbelt land.

I am sure that if this happens history will record this as an act of Warrington brutalising its' own green spaces against the wishes of the people of Warrington.

At the consultation meetings nobody (Public or Council Staff) could give any sense to this desire to destroy our greenbelt. When asked why we suddenly need this development, just two years after the council proposing a much more sensible scale of new homes and business premises, the only response from council staff was that it is being imposed by central government. This seems highly unlikely in a democracy, and if it was the case then I would expect my council to fight such plans to spoil Warrington's green environment we are all proud of.

Does the council, or central government, really want to destroy these greenbelt environments where many wild native species find a sanctuary from residential and industrial development? We have already seen a steep decline, or extinction, of much of the wildlife in Britain and the proposed plans will surely destroy even more habitats. I believe if this destruction goes ahead it will be remembered as a shameful mistake on the part of our council.

If Warrington Council really wants to serve the people, and help provide new homes, then this is not the answer. It is easy to attract property developers to build more detached 3 and 4 bed roomed houses on green fields, but it would be more challenging, and rewarding, to bring the town centre up to date with multi story commercial property, and town centre starter homes, as Manchester and Liverpool have done so successfully.

