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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 June 2019 16:09
To: Local Plan
Subject: Local plan 2019 consultation

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to comment on the proposed submission version local plan.

The plan was drawn up in the expectation of Fiddlers ferry power station potentially continuing to operate for substantial period of time. The recent announcement of a probable closure in 2020 should be factored in to the area of potential brownfield land available for residential and industrial use.

Greenbelt is a misleading term. The value of land should be judged on its contribution to the environment and amenities not just on its ability to separate one conurbation from another. Farmland provides vital habitat for birds, mammals and insects that are vital to national and global ecosystems. This type of land, especially in combination with woodland is essential to reduce flooding, maintains natural hydrolog and improves air and water quality.

Of particular concern in the plan is the intention to redevelop Moore nature reserve for industrial use. Removing up to 73 hectares of woodland and scrub would have a devastating effect on local wildlife, reduce biodiversity, increase air pollution and spoil a popular local nature amenity for generations to come. Mitigation via Arpley landfill sites conversation into a country park cannot guarantee successful recolonisation of the area by current species. Many like the increasingly rare willow Tit are extremely habitat sensitive. Ever decreasing maintenance budgets for natural resource areas would also most likely comprise the sites integrity.

Active council support for industrial development on nature reserves sets a precedent which will almost certainly lead to other sites being compromised in future.

Regards

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