

John McGuinness



Objection to Local Plan

I would like to oppose this plan on the following basis:

- No special circumstances exist to release greenbelt for new build premises
- This plan contravenes Thorn Ward Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Unacceptable increase in traffic and vehicle movements e.g. an additional 2,000 HGV's per hour from proposed Langtree six/56 commercial warehousing sites
- Unacceptable levels of pollution. The WHO named and shamed Warrington as the second worst place in the North West for breaching safety levels for air pollution.
- Urban Sprawl, over 7,000 proposed homes for South Warrington alone is excessive and will harm the village character and setting
- Unjustified growth based on outdated numbers and ambitious assumptions.
- The Ministry of housing, Communities and Local Government has stated that the housing need figure is **not** a target, therefore brownfield sites should be built on first even if that means waiting longer than 5 years for it to be de-contaminated etc.
- The revised National Planning Policy has strengthened protection of Greenbelt by making it clear that its boundaries should only be altered where exceptional circumstances are 'fully evidenced and justified' – this plan does not evidence and justify the destruction of the greenbelt.
- There are no infrastructure improvements proposed to the South of Warrington that will cope with the additional vehicles, the old Victorian bridges (which regularly break down) will not cope with the additional traffic.
- Fiddler's Ferry should be considered as a suitable brownfield site for future development.
- Assumptions around residents 'ditching' their cars and cycling/walking is a ludicrous idea, this would take many years to change the way people travel and in the meantime, more and more homes will be built and the roads will be gridlocked, the pollution levels will be unacceptable and many people will suffer with various illnesses.
- The bus network is inadequate, expensive and time consuming as an alternative to driving.
- Air pollution is an invisible killer, 36% deaths from lung cancer, 34% of deaths from stroke and 27% deaths from heart disease. Clean air = healthy future – this plan does not care about air pollution and the quality of residents lives, it is based on profits only.

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