

8<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

Dear Sirs, Warrington Borough Council Draft Local Plan.

I wish to object most strongly to the Local Plan which I believe is not sound for the following reasons.

Firstly the housing numbers are too high. Official population increase predictions would need 528 houses to be built in a year. The council is proposing 945 houses.

Secondly there is no justification for releasing Green Belt land for development. Twenty years is too far ahead to plan, and a plan for fifteen years is more usual. This would not require the release of Green Belt now, and possibly ever, as more brown field sites (eg where the existing hospital is) become available. The town centre needs to be further rejuvenated to help strengthen its future viability.

A major concern of mine ~~area~~ is the impact of the proposed development on infrastructure. Roads and canal crossings are totally inadequate

at the moment. The town has seen a significant increase in heavy vehicles using Bridge Foot, Stockton Heath Swing Bridge, and Walton Swing Bridge as businesses and people avoid paying the toll on the new Runcorn Bridge. Warrington has The Mersey, The Ship Canal and The Bridgewater Canal, and the geographical constraints of the area cannot be totally ignored. The three swing bridges and the high level bridge were built in Victorian times — the age of horse and carts with little motorised traffic. Many of the bridges over the Bridgewater Canal are humped back bridges built even earlier. This proposed amount of new houses and warehousing development will bring gridlock to our already congested roads especially at junctions and through Stockton Heath.

I would strongly urge anyone considering these proposals to experience for himself/herself the traffic problems in Stockton Heath / Appleton / Grappenhall. The wall ~~for~~ ~~himself/herself~~ at all times of the day but especially at rush hour and school finishing times.

The plan predicts the obvious need for new schools and medical facilities. Warrington has a very poor record of building such facilities

of promptly. For example my daughter was supposed to go to a new infant school at Grappenhall Heyes. She didn't go as this school was only completed when she was in her first year at university. In the same way the proposed medical centre and station at Chapelford have taken years to get off the ground.

Another significant concern of mine is Air Pollution. The council's plan does not address the growing concerns about the health hazard of air pollution. Extra pollution for increased traffic will worsen pollution round our choked main roads.

These proposals are not sound and are undeliverable. The housing numbers driving the plan are unrealistic relative to anything Warrington has achieved in the recent past. The poor highway infrastructure and geographical limitations of the site make the plan undeliverable. Green belt should not be sacrificed.

Yours faithfully,

Doreth Elizabeth Jones (Mrs)