

From: 
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Re: Local Plan
Date: 16 June 2019 22:33:17

Local Plan Objection – 16th June 2019

I wish to express my concern and lodge my objection to the proposals outlined in the Local Plan on the following grounds:

▪ Significant loss of green belt land

I fail to see on any level Warrington Council's logic behind a 'preferred option' to build such a large proportion of the new housing on green belt land, particularly in the South Warrington area. Green belt policy was created for a very good reason, i.e. to prevent urban sprawl, maintain an area for agriculture and forestry, and provide a habitat for wildlife, having a positive effect on the lives of both rural and urban inhabitants. In view of this, by their very definition, these areas should be the choice of absolute last resort and not a 'preferred option'.

I currently remain very unconvinced, from what I have read or seen with regard to the Local Plan, that enough consideration has been given to potential brown field sites, particularly in light of ongoing knowledge of the closure of Fiddlers Ferry.

▪ Traffic issues and pollution

I believe that Warrington is already amongst the topmost polluted places in the United Kingdom, so I fail to see how adding potentially another 50,000 cars or more into the mix can do anything to improve this.

The current infrastructure is creaking under the strain of existing traffic, you only have to witness the effect of an incident on any of the three motorways surrounding Warrington to get an insight into the potentially disastrous affect that the addition of such a huge volume of traffic would have, even with the 'proposed' new 'by-passes' in place.

▪ Environmental affects

The potential detrimental effect of the disruption, noise, vibration and pollution such large scale housing and infrastructure construction would have on wildlife and residents should not be under-estimated and the loss of such large areas of green belt can only serve to exacerbate this.

▪ Schools and healthcare amenities

Local schools and doctors' surgeries are already over-subscribed and Warrington/Halton hospitals operating to capacity. The building of new schools and health care facilities may be included in the plan, but what consideration has been given to how these will be staffed and funded going forward?

▪ Loss of history and heritage

The proposed creation of a 'garden city' in the South Warrington will completely change the character of the area forever and destroy its history and heritage.

▪ **The soundness of the plan**

Finally, in view of the massive scale and potential effects of this proposal on the residents of Warrington, I would like to express my concern as to the soundness of this plan on the following grounds:

- Taking into consideration the constantly changing/evolving nature of the Governments political position in relation to many issues, a 20 year plan seems completely unrealistic and highly undeliverable and it should be at the very most a 5 or 10 year plan.
- There is absolutely no clear proof or justification, or indeed any in my opinion, of exceptional circumstances for building on and destroying green belt land.
- Considering 'falling' birth rates, I fail to see the justification or necessity to build such large numbers of houses, particularly as the majority of them are not deemed 'affordable'.
- There is a very concerning lack of detail on the proposed infrastructure and funding in place to support this plan.

Linda Bain, [REDACTED]