



Local Plan
Planning Policy and Programmes
Warrington Borough Council
New Town House
Buttermarket Street
Warrington
WA1 2NH

16th June 2019

Dear Sir

Consultation Response on Proposed Submission Version of the Local Plan

I write to set out my STRONG OBJECTION to the Proposed Submission Version of the Local Plan (PSVLP) which is the subject of this current consultation.

I objected to previous drafts of the document on a large number of grounds. I am sure you have got my previous letter on file. I am disappointed that the Local Authority appear to have had such little regard for the very valid comments and concerns of the communities it purports to represent and that they have pushed to publish this draft for consultation without seeming to address them in any way.

Despite the Council's best efforts to confuse matters with poor quality documentation, unreliable and often inaccessible websites, contradictory views expressed at consultation events etc, As indicated above I did object to the previous proposed plan and set out in detail the reasons for my objection. I think most of the comments made in that letter are still valid and I am sure you can locate a copy in your files for reference.

My concerns relate to:

Plan period – I am not clear why the Council is undertaking a 20 year plan period, when it only need to be 15.

Housing Numbers- There seems to be no justification for the housing numbers used. This appears to be driven by developer interest rather than sound facts. Government methodology is a starting point not a target

Brown field – Brown field land development should be prioritised ahead of green belt. If a developer is given a choice of green belt or brown field, the green belt will always be first choice.

Infrastrucure – The Local Plan does not show how the thousands of new residents will get in to the town centre. It does not include detail on the provision of new hospital facilities, doctor’s surgeries, dentists, schools, shops, libraries, etc will be provide and paid for.

Identity – the character of the local villages in the south of the town will be lost as they become part of the urban sprawl

Green Belt – the plan does not meet the 5 criteria for the release of green belt. The proposal will destroy the habitat of thousands of animals, insects and birds and the loss of large amounts of agricultural land.

Air Quality / Congestion – the air quality in Warrington is poor. The proposals in the Local plan do nothing to improve the situation but will make it significantly worse. The M6 between junctions 19 and 22 is congested several times a day with accidents or delays impacting on the town centre. This plan is going to make the situation ten times worse.

Neighbourhood Plans - The Government tried to make planning more democratic by introducing Neighbourhood Plans. I am disappointed that the proposed local plan goes against all the hard work put in to these plans by local residents.

I do not feel the plan is sound or deliverable.

As indicated above I object strongly to the proposed Local Plan and trust my comments will be taken in to account

Yours Faithfully

Louise Sprott