

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Local Plan
Date: 06 May 2019 18:45:43

I have been a resident in [REDACTED] Warrington for a period of [REDACTED] years and further to the publication of the Local Plan documentation I wish to submit the following comments for consideration.

The proposed plan does not take into account the interests of the population of South Warrington. There is very strong opposition to the proposals based on the unique character of the area and the detrimental effect such excessive expansion would have on the current residents. There is no need for such large scale development of housing in the town of Warrington and there are strong arguments to support this opposition which must be considered.

Large scale expansion to create a Garden Suburb will turn Warrington into a 'dormitory' town for commuters into Manchester and Liverpool - indeed this is already becoming the case. What do the current residents stand to gain from such an approach? The population figures used within the plan are inflated - official figures indicate expected growth in Warrington of just under 19,00 not the 44,000 stated within the proposal. Sufficient dwellings based on these figures could be provided within existing brown field sites or other sites e.g. Fiddlers Ferry which will soon become available.

There appears to be no proper consideration of the impact such a large increase in number of residents would have on the road system. Congestion within the town and the feeder roads from Walton, Stockton Heath and Latchford is already serious. Building the new link road from Walton across the river will not be effective in distributing local traffic. It is not acceptable to include no proposals for new routes or roads to deal with the increased traffic when the number of dwellings proposed is so substantial. Furthermore, the additional traffic would have significant health impact due to increased air pollution with the resulting slow moving traffic.

The proposed expansion of 'employment' designated areas adjacent to Appleton Thorn would have little impact on employment opportunities within the town. As is evident from warehouse expansion at Omega in North Warrington, facilities of this type have limited impact on unemployment. The jobs they provide are low skilled, low paid jobs and do to promote economic well-being of the community. To have an employment area next to a 'Garden Suburb' is completely illogical and disregards the need for transport links to areas of employment need within the town. If the future economic prospects of the young people of the town are to be considered, surely employment opportunities need to be provided first, before housing expansion - to approach growth from the opposite i.e. increase the population first is not likely to be successful.

It is not clear that the type of housing proposed matches the needs of the town's current population, where a shortage of affordable housing is apparent. Lack of high quality job opportunities and/or affordable good quality housing will lead to a drain of young people away from the town. There are too many communities within the North of England where this is the case. We need to create a vibrant, attractive urban environment to attract and hold onto the young people who will support the community into the future. New housing on green field sites will not provide what is needed.

My own belief is that this submission is driven by political motivations linked to aspirations to achieve city status due to population size- something which I do not believe is within the interest of the community.

Ann Kirk
[REDACTED]