



Dear Sir/ Madam,

I write to you to express my deepest concern and opposition to Warrington Council's Local Plan or Proposed Submission Version (PSV). It seems very clear that little meaningful thought has gone into the formulation of this plan; the proposal to build so many houses has many serious flaws which appear to have been overlooked.

According to the government, Green Belt land should only be used in exceptional circumstances, so I am at a loss to understand why WBC is considering building on vast areas of such land, especially when there are ample brown field areas to use. Given that the government has also reassessed its plans on how many houses need to be built in a new White paper, it makes sense that WBC should also reassess their plans. As a side note, a friend recently had their planning application denied by WBC as it would encroach (by minimal proportions) onto Green Belt land - it seems that WBC are being entirely hypocritical in proposing a plan, therefore, which builds on Green Belt.

Moreover, Warrington is already a town which is under numerous pressures. I find it preposterous that the council is considering adding a further 20,000 + houses to an area which already witnesses significant traffic congestion. The plans do not seem to provide adequate infrastructure for the servicing of so many new houses and any roads which have been added (i.e. the Strategic Road) seem there to serve not the local community but the freight which would be able to exploit such roads to speed up access from the M56 to the industrial state at Barley Castle. Furthermore, medical and health care services will be placed under tremendous pressure if an influx of so many people occurs as a result of said houses. Warrington hospital is already under serious pressure and there is scant provision in the PSV to enable the hospital to cater for so many more additional people. Finally, the educational requirements for so many new houses cannot be met by the current schools in the area, yet the PSV makes no attempt to adequately provide for the needs of so many more children.

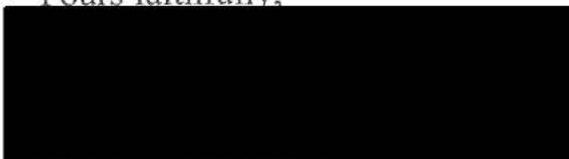
Whilst the above considerations would seem to me at least to cause serious objections to any plan, there is also the irreparable damage to the environment which needs to be taken into account. The area to be built upon is precious and contains many important, rare and, in some cases, protected species – as such

this Green Belt land should be considered sacrosanct. Furthermore, the environmental impact of so many additional cars which the PSV would bring to the region would prove appalling, especially considering that Warrington already has one of the worst recorded air qualities in the country

To finish, WBC continues to be particularly unforthcoming in their consultation progress. The public was kept in the dark regarding the initial PDO, with consultation held over a shortened period at a time when many were on holiday, and it remains the domain of local pressure groups to keep the public fully informed about what is going on. WBC has not been, in the minds of many, totally transparent in their dealings.

Having researched and consulted on the various issues surrounding the PSV, there seems to be serious and very real flaws in what WBC are proposing. Moreover, with the PSV looking very similar to the original PDO it appears that WBC have failed to take into consideration the thousands of opposition letters which were originally submitted when the full extent of the PDO became known – I find this both distressing and depressing. Government guidelines, logic and common sense all dictate that there is simply no need to build so many houses (especially when they would put substantial and intolerable pressure on the local community), and there is certainly no need to build the houses which are required on Green Belt land.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Onelia Angelosanto