

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Local Plan
Date: 08 June 2019 15:00:33

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Dear Sir/Madam

I OBJECT to the Local Plan for the following reasons.

1. Traffic Chaos. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] As FICE, I believe I am qualified to comment on the likely effects if the proposed developments were to proceed. For several years, there has already been severe traffic congestion in the M6 J20/Grappenhall Lane/Barleycastle Lane area with traffic backing up into Appleton Thorn. This descends into chaos when M6/Thelwall Viaduct is stationary. Further development close to J20 is ridiculous as any delays on the M6 will directly impact the local population and economy due to the resulting gridlock. It will make getting into or out of the village even harder. The proposed highway amendments in the Local Plan will make no difference to local traffic flow when the M6 is stationary.
2. The Plan says it will bring jobs and investment to Warrington. How? The proposed Plan seems to be encouraging large distribution centres like at Omega. This is low technology, mediocre paid work. Is there a job shortage in Warrington? Not according to government statistics. Are the jobs likely to be taken by local Warrington people? More likely from the M6 or M56 corridor, adding even further to the traffic congestion.
3. How will the proposed Plan help to develop the Town Centre? Residents of South Warrington are already detracted from going to the Town Centre due to the traffic problems created by The Ship Canal, Bridgewater Canal, River Mersey and rail lines. There is nothing in the Local Plan about improving access to the town centre from the south. The Western Link (surely at least 7 years away at the earliest) will make no difference to residents to the southeast of Warrington (Appleton Thorn, Grappenhall etc.). Peel has no interest in investing in their infrastructure and are merely playing a waiting game for when Warrington BC must step in and fund the repair of their bridges. Even if the new residents can make it out of their road, they are likely to head to the M56 and M6; not a bottlenecked Town Centre.
4. Light Pollution. Already the residents of Appleton Thorn believe they are living within Old Trafford/Anfield/Goodison Park/Etihad etc. The 24-hour a day nature of logistics business means that it is no longer dark at night already because of Barleycastle Trading Estate. I invite the Planners to visit Appleton Thorn at night to witness this themselves. It did not used to be like this. This appears to have been allowed to happen over the years by stealth. How?

5. Environment and Sustainability. UK public sector authorities are being encouraged to adopt the UN Sustainability Development Goals. Whilst the Plan grandly boasts throughout that it puts sustainability and the environment at the fore, how is this compatible with the planned housing estates and desecration of green belt? There is no link. I would like to know how the Local Plan meets the UN Specified Goals, particularly;
 - 3 – Good Health and Well-Being
 - 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
 - 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
 - 13 – Climate Action
 - 15- Life on Land.
6. Infrastructure. Already Stobart and other logistic companies' vehicles drive through Appleton Thorn, although they shouldn't. M56 J10 is used if M6 J20 is blocked. Further local expansion will only increase this occurrence, to the detriment of health and safety of residents.
7. Litter. Warrington BC is continually contacted over the appalling state of Barleycastle Lane/ Grappenhall Lane. The litter currently emanates from the businesses on Barleycastle Industrial Estate and possibly the traveller site. Further developments will make this depressingly worse.
8. Loss of Greenbelt. The proposed local plan is a terrible loss of the green belt. Once gone, it is gone for ever. One of the purposes of the green belt is to stop urban sprawl and this Plan would contravene this.
9. The proposed Plan will turn South Warrington into a massive housing estate surrounded by motorways. It will destroy the character of the area.
10. Climate Change. This Plan comes at a time when our government has declared a climate change crisis and that we should be looking to preserve the green belt and indeed add to it by planting more trees and encouraging biodiversity.
11. Alternative brownfield sites need to be proven to have been explored as a priority as there seem to be no special circumstances for the use of the green belt in this area.
12. There are no 'very special circumstances' to build on green belt with regard to its ecology, openness and amenity.
13. This proposal contravenes policies from the Thorn Ward's NDP.
14. Finally, what type of image is Warrington wishing to portray by allowing this Local Plan? To many, Warrington already has an image of massive warehouses (Omega), motorways and transport infrastructure blockages (Ship Canal/Bridgewater canal/Rail/River Mersey).
Warrington needs to retain its green belt.

Yours faithfully

Ray Langley
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