



Stretton Parish Council

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Dear Kerry

WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

Respondent reference number 2385 – Stretton Parish Council

Statement - Matters 6f Main Development SEW Employment Area

Stretton Parish Council are members of the South Warrington Parish Council Group who commissioned Grove Town Planning to submit on their behalf a planning objection to the Langtree PP & Panattori Six/56 commercial development (ref 2019/34799) that is situated with the proposed SEW Employment Area.

Despite significant opposition to this Planning Application Warrington Borough Council approved it, however the Secretary of State has instructed the Council not to grant planning permission without specific authorisation from the Secretary of State.

The following are key issues of concerns relating to the SEW Employment Area proposal.

- The Local Plan takes little or no consequence of the fact that the existing South Warrington highway infrastructure, in particular the B5356 Stretton Road and the A49 London Road, are already at saturation point at peak periods.
- The impact of the significant increase in road traffic, in particular LGV's and cars, that will accompany the very large scale SEW Employment Area, and will inevitably take the form of:
 - i. Delays in traffic movements due to increased queues.
 - ii. Increased journey times due to unpredictable stress on the highway network i.e. road accidents, roadworks, displaced motorway flows, breakdowns etc.

- iii. Disruption to travel on emergency services and key workers.
- iv. Unpredictable delays to bus services and knock on effect on patronage.
- v. Increased air and noise pollution.
- vi. Increased difficulty in crossing roadways for schoolchildren, people with disabilities and the less agile.
- vii. An overall sense of reduced quality of life.

For example, the Six/56 developers have indicated that they will create 2,400 on site car spaces and generate over 4,000 jobs. In addition, there will also be an enormous level of HGV and LGV traffic. The proposed distribution centre will operate 24/7 365 days a year.

- Warrington Borough Council has no clear strategy that ensures traffic generated by the SEW Employment Area will not have an adverse impact on the local community. The effects on the existing highway infrastructure will be enormous i.e. A49, A56, A50, in particular Stockton Heath High Street, Stretton Village, Grappenhall Road, London Road, Lumb Brook Bridge, Wilderspool Causeway and Latchford Village.
- Indeed, massive investment is needed to improve the existing roads and bridge crossings of all three waterways (Bridgewater, Manchester Ship Canal and River Mersey). The Local Plan does not provide the necessary deliverability across the Plan period.
- It has also recently been announced that Liberty (Developers) have forwarded a scoping proposal for a further commercial development at the SEW Employment Area location, which is of a similar size to the Six/56 and will inevitably generate similar levels of additional traffic movements.
- There is no rail access to the SEW Employment Area and therefore the area is totally reliant on highway transportation.
- Though there are no air quality monitors within Stretton Parish we can compare with Stockton Heath village, which the A49 runs through. Their Parish Council have, over the past 18 months, been monitoring the quality of air within their village. The data reveals that during peak periods contaminants (PM2.5 and PM10 – harmful to public health and the environment) are considerably higher than the current World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations. Based upon this information it is also reasonable to assume that the A49 corridor through Stretton will suffer from similar levels of pollutants.

- The Warrington Borough Council are aware of the landmark Coroner's decision in December 2020 in reference to the death of 9 year old Ella Kissi-Debrah in 2013 due to acute respiratory failure that was attributable to the exposure of air pollution. The Coroner said Ella was exposed to nitrogen dioxide matter (PM's) pollution that was in excess of WHO guidelines, the principal source of which was traffic emissions. This legal precedent is a seismic shift towards the pace and extent Government, Local Authorities and Clinicians must work together to tackle the country's air pollution health crisis.
- Based upon the above how can Warrington Borough Council put forward the SEWUE and SEW Employment Area proposals, which will undoubtedly add thousands upon thousands of vehicular movements daily onto the A49 and A50 that will further exasperate air pollution issues in Stockton Heath, Stretton and Latchford villages? The Council have a duty to take reasonable care in ensuring and safeguarding the health and wellbeing of its residents and any decisions or actions by a Local Authority must not be in isolation of these key parameters. These proposals are unethical and not in line with the Governments Clean Air Strategy 2019.

Yours Sincerely



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For and On Behalf Of
Stretton Parish Council