

Sadie Keane

24th October 2021

Local Plan
Planning Policy and Programmes
Warrington Brough Council
East Annexe
Town Hall
Sankey St
Warrington
WA1 1HU

Dear Sirs,

Warrington Local Plan

I write to register my objection to the latest (2021) local plan.

As we are currently being reminded about the seriously negative impact that human intervention is having upon the environment with the looming global conference on climate change (COP26) this local plan does nothing to support the earth's cry for help. The government has already declared a climate emergency. This local plan suggests that either Warrington is exempt from this emergency or is completely blinkered to the very real threat.

As such it would be a negligent act not to object to this latest local plan. In June of this year the Secretary of state for the environment George Eustice spoke in a landmark speech from the local Delamere Forest about the government's plans for nature's recovery. The speech was packed full of announcements to support 30% of land in the UK being set aside for nature by 2030.

Yet Warrington Council's local plan issued four months later proposes a reduction of Warrington's green belt overall by 5%. This would be an irreversible step with loss of greenbelt areas forever. Surely the council should look more closely at utilising available brown field sites in the town.

Much of the proposed development is planned for the south of the town to include erosion of the green belt for the construction of new homes. The location is far from the town's railway stations which would result in increased car usage both in the south of the town and across the town as a whole. There are no proposals for improvement to the local

infrastructure meaning that the plan will only worsen the existing problems of congestion and air quality.

In simple terms the Warrington local plan which will result in a reduction of the greenbelt and increasing reliance on road traffic thereby increasing the town's carbon footprint is wholly inconsistent with the UK's climate change aspiration.

As an A Level student hoping to study Environmental Engineering at University next year I feel that this Local Plan paints Warrington in a poor light at a time when we should all be pulling together to fight the worsening climate change issue. It is not just our green belt that is being eroded but our very future.

Yours sincerely,

Sadie Keane