From:

To:

Local Plan

Subject: Objection to local plan

Date: 02 November 2021 12:57:15

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the updated local plan for Warrington. There are so many issues with the new plan that I find it hard to put into words in any succinct way...

Firstly, the proposal to develop on so much of our precious green belt land is disgraceful and in no way justified. The environmental and economic impact of developing on our greenbelt has not been properly addressed and furthermore, the development of existing brownfield sites has not been sufficiently explored as an alternative before even considering the loss of our precious green belt.

The development of many thousands of new homes in south warrington is completely unjustified and would ruin the existing character of local villages such as Appleton Thorn, Appleton, Thelwall and Grappenhall, and the inevitable increase in traffic that this would cause on our already congested roads in south warrington has not been accommodate in the plan. South Warrington traffic in and out of the town relies almost entirely on a small number of ancient swing bridges and the congestion we see when these bridges open or when issues on our surrounding motorway network results in traffic diverting into Warrington is already an unacceptable mess without the additional impact the proposed development would add to our road network. South Warrington's road network is already overstretched and not fit for purpose before even considering any additional load. Furthermore, the result of increased traffic on the area on our pollution and air quality is not an acceptable position to impose on the local residents!

I simply cannot comprehend why the plan focusses on so much out of town development, when what Warrington sorely needs is a comprehensive plan to improve the town centre in terms of its culture, provision of improved retail, social and leisure facilities and its transport and parking infrastructure in order to attract the residents of Warrington and surrounding areas to visit the town instead of flocking out of Warrington to other much better equipped towns and cities to spend their money!

The plan is just not fit for purpose and concentrates on the "easy" development of green belt land instead of addressing the issues of improving the town centre provision and the transport infrastructure throughout and around the town as well as repurposing existing brownfield sites before even considering destroying our precious green belt in such an obscene and unjustified manner.

This plan is a disgrace!

Yours,

Darren Wedgwood