

From: [Local plan web form](#) on behalf of [Main modifications consultation](#)
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Local plan main modifications consultation
Date: 25 April 2023 19:25:58

Submitted on Tue, 25/04/2023 - 18:25

Submitted values are:

Your information

Your name

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Modification response

Which main modification or consultation are you responding to?

All of them

Is the main modification legally compliant?

No

Why do you consider it is not compliant (max 2000 words)

Quite clearly Warrington Borough Council (WBC) is working in concert with Homes England (HE) as recently witnessed when a member of the WBC Planning Team was seen talking with and guiding the HE Land Surveyors who have been working on all of the fields in the area. I would question the reasoning behind the proposed developments given that WBC is in debt to almost £2 billion with no way of sorting out their massive financial problems other than a 'Fire Sale' to the housing developers and industrial developers. Have they been threatened with Government intervention to sort out the massive debts and are now attempting to do this against the will of the people of the town. Their reasoning for the developments are not sound, they are for monetary gain only and they are not benefiting the local taxpayers.

Is the main modification sound?

No

Why do you consider it is not sound (max 2000 words)

Councils no longer have to have a 5 year housing supply, indeed it has been reported that 55 local authorities have abandoned their local plans and for good reason. National housing targets are advisory not mandatory. It is almost 10 years since the WBC Local Plan was written in 2014, we have gone through Brexit, the Covid Pandemic and we have a falling Birth Rate, I would argue that we do not need the number of homes based on ONS figures from 2014, the population has changed.

There are enough brownfield sites in Warrington to provide homes for the people of the area. I would like to point out that the housing developments that have already gone ahead in South Warrington at Orchard Meadows, Grappenhall Heys and Lichfield Grange are marketed nationally by the developers and are priced much higher than the average wage in Warrington can afford. Many of these homes are not for the local people, the developers know that, they are simply here to make money. WBC are allowing that to happen.

Warrington cannot lose any more greenbelt, when you examine their Interactive Planning Maps on the WBC website, it shows vast tracts of further development land all over the Borough and it would appear that Warrington will be almost completely urbanised, we know WBC have aspirations of claiming 'City Status'. That cannot be allowed to happen.

The Industrial development known as Six56 will not bring the jobs promised, it will be predominantly warehousing and logistics jobs, in fact warehousing is almost completely automated now, so the jobs promised will not materialise. They will be lower paid jobs in general and not able to afford the houses proposed in the South Warrington Plan.

The people of South Warrington are paying the price for not voting Labour, WBC Councillors are using this plan and the destruction of the greenbelt to point score against their opposition, we are being battered in a political tennis match. The Councillors are not acting in the best interests of the town & its people, somebody at national Level needs to step in and bring some common sense to the table.

Can I ask you to consider the use of the word 'greenbelt' in another context, I prefer to call it the 'greenlungs' of the town. Warrington is an industrialised polluted town, suffering from years of contamination on the old factory sites. The 'greenlung' areas are needed to process the pollution from the air, the trees and plants filter the air so we can breathe clean air again. The number of children in the town with asthma is already far too high, the pollution levels are far too high, we must not add to it.

Detailed response and document upload

Detailed response to main modification (A maximum of 5000 words, which equates to roughly 10 sides of A4 paper)

The plan fails to identify enough brownfield sites in the area, brownfield sites should always be the first part of any development plan.

The plan does not address the action points raised regarding Air Quality Management, and this information has since disappeared from WBC's website. What are they hiding?

There are now double the number of empty homes from the census of 2011 to the census of 2021, some 1545 homes left empty, again they should be used first, but there is no money in that for the developers or WBC.

The majority of proposed development in South Warrington is for Grade 2 agricultural land, since Brexit we have seen shortages of foods in supermarkets, as a nation we must grow more of our own produce, we cannot be beholden to other countries to feed ourselves, this is good agricultural land that must not be lost forever.

WBC cannot be trusted to make decisions for the town and its people, they have made bad decisions for years now leading to a £2 billion debt. This

plan is their plan, for their own ends, it must be stopped before they do more damage to us all. Not to mention the wildlife.