

From: [Local plan web form](#) on behalf of [Main modifications consultation](#)
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Local plan main modifications consultation
Date: 26 April 2023 14:31:17

Submitted on Wed, 26/04/2023 - 14:30

Submitted values are:

Your information

Your name

Andrew Griffiths

Organisation (if applicable)

On behalf of Winwick Parish Residents

Address

[REDACTED]

Email address

[REDACTED]

Modification response

Which main modification or consultation are you responding on?

MM02 & MM30

Is the main modification legally compliant?

No

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

MM02

The government has now removed compulsory housing targets for authorities, as confirmed by The Homes & Communities Agency, who said that housing targets are only a guide and are non-mandatory for councils. Therefore, Paragraph 3.3.7 which includes the phrase "homes in order for the Council to meet its housing requirement." is not legally compliant as the basis for this housing requirement is no longer valid itself.

Is the main modification sound?

No

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

MM30

There have been a number of subsequent changes since the Local Plan Inspection which impact site OS6, especially when it concerns accessibility and the traffic assessment. As this modification specifically alters the statement on commensurate improvements to remaining greenbelt, including accessibility, this makes this new text not sound

Detailed response and document upload

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

MM02

The government has now removed compulsory housing targets for authorities, as confirmed by The Homes & Communities Agency, who said that housing targets are only a guide and are non-mandatory for councils. Therefore, Paragraph 3.3.7 which includes the phrase "homes in order for the Council to meet its housing requirement." is not legally compliant as the basis for this housing requirement is no longer valid itself.

Housing requirements should now be revised based on up-to-date information which shows a significantly slower birth rate than the out of date figures used to calculate the value shown. The reason for using this out-of-date number was given that this was required by the government, which is no longer the case.

It has also been shown that there are 1,545 unoccupied houses in Warrington, which reduces the calculation of required new homes, and means there is no longer exceptional circumstances for the release of green belt

MM30

There have been a number of subsequent changes since the Local Plan Inspection which impact site OS6, especially when it concerns accessibility and the traffic assessment. As this modification specifically alters the statement on commensurate improvements to remaining greenbelt, including accessibility, this makes this new text not sound

The traffic assessment for this site takes into account improvements that were planned as part of the Parkside development to the junctions of Golborne Road and the A49, as well as the junction of Golborne Road and Myddleton Lane. This was confirmed by the WBC Highways team at the Local Plan inspection for OS6. However, recent developments have now transpired that these junction improvements will not take place through the Parkside scheme. Therefore, these improvements now need to be made a condition of the OS6 development, or a new traffic assessment needs to take place without these improvements in place. These improvements affect the accessibility of the remaining green belt, therefore are under the purview of this consultation, as this is specifically part of the changed text. The changed text would mean the improvements would not have to be made to the most appropriate place, and the developer could be discharged from making the improvements necessary to deal with the impact of their

development. They themselves note that without these developments, the junctions in question would experience increased congestion. These issues affect the soundness of the amendments to OS6, especially as it was confirmed to the inspectors that these improvements would be made at the inspection hearing