


Dear Sir/Madam,


Warrington Borough Council – Local Plan Preferred Development Option. Objection letter

 We had a very specific idea of where we wanted to live and loved the fact that Moore village has a distinct identity and feels like a rural area despite being so close to Warrington and Runcorn. The fact that it had a conversation area and a Nature reserve nearby was important in our decision making.

In writing the Local Plan it seems that Warrington have only considered the natural and historic assets within their own borough boundary and have completely overlooked that the village of Moore which immediately adjoins their proposed South Western Urban extension. Moore village and Sandymoor will be affected detrimentally by this plan which ignores the fact that it is a historic village with a Conservation area and several listed buildings. It also provides fantastic natural resources that are enjoyed by residents from Warrington and beyond, who use the footpath network, towpaths and access Moore Nature Reserve.

The main purpose of green belt is to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another. This proposal would see housing coming right up to the village boundary at the eastern side of the village meaning there would be no green belt left and Moore would be 'swallowed up' by new housing. Combine this with the Halton Council Plan for Sandymoor and the area around the Daresbury Labs and there will literally be no space left between Warrington and Runcorn.

Green Belt is important and I have seen council responses to planning applications from residents made only last year that cited retention of the Green Belt as the reason for rejecting their application. These plans seem to ignore the importance of the Green Belt for the convenience of the council.

The Port Warrington proposal indicates a large distribution centre with huge warehousing to the north of the Manchester Ship Canal. This development would have a devastating impact on the lives of the residents of Promenade Park as their homes directly overlook this area. There are 80+ homes on this site and it accounts for nearly a quarter of the population of the village of Moore. The site is beautifully maintained by the residents and is regularly commended by the Cheshire Best Kept Village Judges. Most residents have chosen to retire here because of its pleasant, open setting and relatively peaceful environment. I am also extremely concerned about the impact of Port Warrington on Moore Nature Reserve which is important for both wildlife and people in equal measure and must be protected for future generations. 

[REDACTED] it's criminal to think of this beautiful open space being destroyed.

The council also need to consider the impact on the mental health of their communities. The British Psychological Society have recently published a paper explaining the merits to Mental Health of green space. This cannot be underestimated given that it's a rapidly increasing issue for council and Health Services across the UK. Removing more and more green space will have an impact – on mental Health and therefore use and need for services.

Finally, all the above proposals would have a huge, adverse impact on existing services in the area. All our local medical centres are full and the local roads are regularly clogged with traffic trying to find a route either from Warrington or Runcorn, when there is either a hold up on the M56, the Runcorn Bridge or the M6. I believe the Red Route plans would compound this problem and simply bring the hold-ups that are currently seen at Bridgefoot, further out of town. The Red Route for the bridge is another huge issue. I recognise that a solution needs to be found but one that follows this path through/over such a huge green area is surely not an option. Something the height of the Thelwall Viaduct is not acceptable.

I look forward to your considered responses and reasonable discussion.

