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WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Warrington Borough Council

Local Plan

Preferred Development Option

Regulation 18 Consultation

Standard Response Form

July 2017

To **WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Local Plan, Preferred Development Option.

I list below my response to your consultation concerning this plan.

- 1) I believe the way the consultation was carried out was very poor
The timing was wrong; people were largely away on holiday.
The advertising of the plan was appalling. A lot of people only found out by word of mouth and the venues were in the main poor and far between.
I believe the council was lacking in its duty to the people of Warrington.

- 2) The plans at the venues were hard to follow and the officers there were not always able to answer questions.
Some of the answers given at the Lymm venue were disputed at the Stretton venue for example whether the trans-pennine trail was to be part of a new link road.
One said yes probably but another said no!

- 3) The plan itself does nothing to resolve the problems that already exist.
Currently we have three major roads leading to three antiquated bridges over the **Manchester Ship Canal which often cannot cope with the current traffic.**
With problems on the M6 which occur frequently the south of the town becomes gridlocked and the infrastructure proposed does not allow for any improvement.
With the number of houses proposed this will make life impossible.

- 4) **Services.** Currently there are next to no services south of the Ship Canal.
There are no major supermarkets south of the canal and as all the major shops in Warrington seem to be moving to Winwick Road, Westbrook or other areas of north Warrington seemingly with the blessing of Warrington Borough Council it is often quicker to shop in Runcorn or other places outside the borough.
This is compounded by the poor bus service south of the canal; why do all buses in the south have to go via gridlocked Stockton Heath? We have no service now between Lymm, Grappenhall or Thelwall to Latchford, formerly an area of useful services.

This plan does not offer us any services of note.

5) We do not want to lose all the areas of green belt listed. This is important as we must preserve our open spaces and our environment rich in wildlife and fresh air. The need for so many houses in this green belt area is not sustainable and unnecessary.

It is not necessary to concrete-over the area between the ship canal and the M56 motorway.

6) **Garden City.** When were we consulted on wanting a Garden City or a City of any kind?

I believe this is an imposition by the council and I for one am not happy with this. I have so far not found anyone who wants a city!

7) If the volume of housing proposed is forthcoming, I believe that due to the poor infrastructure, the south of Warrington will become a dormitory for people working, shopping and playing in Manchester, Liverpool or Chester with no benefits to Warrington itself.

With the motorway network it is easier to access these cities than Warrington with its poor communications.

8) In or around 2002 a very good village design plan was put forward. A lot of work and information was put into it and it was then delivered to Warrington Borough Council.

Why has this work been completely ignored by the council?

Finally I accept that some development must take place. However this plan is not fit for purpose and I believe was ill-conceived.

I suggest that Warrington Borough Council goes away and thinks again.

