

Subject: Preferred Development Objection

I would like to voice my concerns over the Local Plan and potential "Garden City." I have been a resident of Warrington South my whole life. I was born and raised down St Mary's Street, Latchford and now live on GrangeAvenue. It is my view, firstly that the proposed permanent loss of Greenbelt in order to build 24000 new homes will cause permanent damage to the community, spirit and indeed safety of our town. Of these homes only 30% are suggested "affordable". I would like to ask how many of these would be Council houses built and employed by Council workers? I don't believe Warrington has the capacity to accommodate so many new build homes. We are town not a city. Deregulation, privatisation and cuts in general are health and safety issues and we have all seen the tragic results of cost cutting privatisation in the macabre icon to failed austerity that is Grenfell Tower. What is being suggested in this town feels more like social cleansing than anything that would profit and enhance the town. How many people living here could actually afford the properties?

I tried to fill in the 22 page response form but it was too much a minefield. I am shocked that my ethnicity, gender, religion and race were asked. Again, feels like social division. Why does it matter what I am to any of the proposed plans?

I am extremely concerned about the proposed highway through Latchford and what will become of St Mary's street. I am being told that some houses will be subjected to CPOs. My former family home with all memories

as being my security when I become a pensioner could be demolished for greed and profit. The community spirit of St Mary's street utterly destroyed for a highway that will possibly serve no fit purpose for residents of Warrington but just a byway and dumping ground for Manchester.

Homes bought under the CPO will not be worth the same market value they are now and my sister who still lives in our house down St Mary's st could be left with no choice but to buy a one bedroom end apartment with the money from the sale and nothing for those of us left behind. I am beyond heartbroken at the thought of this.

The stress on the wellbeing of the people of this town by these plans is not being taken into consideration.

We are a small town which at the moment hasn't even got a Marks and Spencer's. We are still having to fight library closures. It makes no sense to propose a Garden City which will destroy what is left of out heritage and infrastructure.

I believe the proposed ideas of the Western Link, highway through Latchford and City of Culture will bump up council tax, lower business rates and will bring further congestion, pollution and flood concerns to Warrington.

There comes a point when growth has to stop and actually refurbish and save the beloved town we actually have! Our hospital is already massively underfunded and rammed to capacity due to government cuts. The NHS is in a humanitarian crisis and the council also want to close down Allen St day centre which supports and helps vulnerable people.

One final point, the planning and housing commissioner who spoken to the St Mary's st residents meeting seemed to emphasise very strongly that the government could prosecute and parachute in their own developers if these plans did not go ahead. But what of these plans if we have a change of government next year? Why is a Labour council so keen to do the Tory party's bidding? Why are they not giving their all to fighting these plans and defending residents concerns?

I understand the need for development but I believe decisions should be made by listening to residents views, a greener infrastructure, social housing and traffic planning where the car is not the God of the future in a gridlocked and over polluted town where people will die from the damage to the environment. This is not the legacy I wish to leave behind for the next generation.

Please consider the views of the many not the few when going forward with any future plans.

Yours Sincerely

