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I write to object to the Warrington Borough Council Preferred Development Plan.

My principal reasons for objection are:

1. The flawed vision of the Council for making Warrington a city.
2. The inadequacy of the Consultation process.
3. The miscalculation of the housing needs.
4. The lack of exceptional circumstances for reclassifying the Green Belt.

"Option 2" is based on the aspirations of Warrington borough Council (WBC) to create a "new city" not the needs of the town. The plan should be based on an updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment that take into account the latest economic, demographic and migratory expectations.

This plan is not a robust and sustainable plan as no ecological, transport and air quality surveys have been made. Furthermore the consultation process has been inadequate and badly communicated. As residents we deserve a higher standard of disclosure and transparency than has been shown by WBC.

The primary purpose of Green Belt land is to protect urban sprawl and the land for farming, forestry, in storing carbon and prevent flooding. The loss of these open green spaces will impact on quality of life, health and wellbeing. The National Planning Policy Framework states Green Belt boundaries should only be changed in exceptional circumstances. What are the exceptional circumstances?

Warrington was named as the second worst place in the North West for breaching safety levels for air pollution by the World Health Organisation in May 2016. How are you tackling this problem?

I am also extremely concerned about the development of Port Warrington and its devastating impact on Moore Nature Reserve. What are the views of WBC on Moore Nature Reserve?

The scale of the Preferred Development Option would totally change the character of South Warrington and destroy its heritage and history. We have neither the hospital capacity nor the infrastructure to support so many new houses. An elected town council should act in the best interest of the town residents and look at an innovative regeneration of brownfield sites.

[REDACTED]  
Life-long resident of Stockton Heath and Moore.

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