Response to the Warrington local Plan



I would like to strongly object to proposed Warrington Local Plan. There are a number of reasons and these are as follows:

- There has been effectively no consultation with the people of Warrington as to what direction they wish to go This plan is obviously a dash for grown and a huge increase in population and use of greenbelt to provide extra house and distribution centres, this is not what the majority of Warrington people want
- As in the feedback to the City of Culture, Warrington is struggling to create an identity and culture partly to due to its rapid growth over the last 20 years and instead of focusing on this, Councillors with a political or public mandate want to increase the population from circa 200,000 to 300,000
- The Local Plan only needs to be for 15 years and not the 20 years as published, this would reduce the greenbelt need
- The Secretary of State has said the housing figures are a starting point and not a target, we should make a case for lower housing numbers especially with the major growth Warrington has already had over the past generation
- We should utilise all or at least much more of the brownfield sites in Warrington prior to using so much greenbelt land
- Warrington has unique infrastructure challenges, rivers, canals and motorways and the Local plan and Local transport plan does not tell us how people from the new developments in South Warrington will get in and out of Warrington. Costings for the new roads are also questionable
- There will be a loss of identity of all the villages due to the cast increase in numbers of houses and people
- The application for the Stobart National centre and the huge Six:56 development should be included along with the increased housing within the Local Plan, as they are they are extremely relevant and add to the detrimental impact of the plan, in terms of congestion, loss of greenbelt, ecology and poorer health and worse facilities for the people of Warrington
- The Six;56 for instance shows the location of these Warehouses, at one of the highest points in Warrington (200 ft above sea level) and up to 40 meters high as reported at the Langtree consultation process (the Statue of Liberty being 44 5M high), will undoubtedly create a huge unsightly eyesore which can be seen all the way across Warrington and the surrounding area. It will also create a lasting industrial legacy for our children, in the middle of designated greenbelt land. It will undoubtedly give people and businesses thinking of moving into the area an extremely poor impression of what the town has to offer
- Warrington has also been named, by the World Health Organisation, as in the top 10 most polluted towns in the Country (in terms of air pollution) With all the extra HGV journeys associated with this application this will only make this much worse for all people across the Town
- The use of this significant swathe of Greenbelt land is detrimental to the whole of Warrington and the surrounding area and obviously all of this, in order to accommodate some huge warehouses and the associated massive increase in HGV's journey's and traffic due to the large increase in housing cannot in any way meet the exceptional circumstances required for such an application to be granted
- Warrington is also one of the most congested towns in the North West of England due to the proximity of the major motorways, which already comes to a total standstill most Friday s and every time there s a breakdown on the Thelwall Viaduct, creating delays of 4 or 5 hours just to get across town. No matter what traffic figures are put forward, tens of thousands of additional HGV journeys and additional traffic caused by the huge increase in housing and people will undoubtedly cause even more significant congestion problems
- The use of greenbelt will obviously have a huge impact on the Environment and Ecology

Regards Mark Kelly