

Helen Taitt

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14 June 2019

Local Plan, Planning Policy and Programmes,
Warrington Borough Council
New Town House,
Buttermarket Street,
Warrington
WA1 2NH

Dear sir/madam,

Following attendance at consultation events I am writing to express my deep concern over the Warrington Local Plan

Why are you choosing green belt land, why not brownfield? There are many brownfield sites around the town that have not been fully utilised in these plans and the many empty properties across town. We heard yesterday about the closure of Fiddlers Ferry which is a very large brownfield site requiring an alternative use that isn't in the current land allocation.

It is abhorrent to sacrifice Green belt, which should be protected for life to create a 'Garden City' when we should be improving the existing town and making it a more appealing 'town' to live in.

Why has this area of greenbelt has been chosen and what the justification for downgrading its green belt status?

The number of houses proposed is too high. Only a small proportion of these houses are affordable. This means that most of the warehouse workers will be from out of the area and having to commute into work. The existing and proposed infrastructure would not be able to service this level of traffic.

Only last year, I had to abandon my car a couple of miles from my home [REDACTED] due to this gridlock and walk home [REDACTED] after being stuck for hours in traffic due to problems on the M6.

The Thelwall viaduct often has problems when there are high winds, much of the traffic diverts through Warrington and adds to the traffic chaos which the smaller A roads cannot take.

Broad Lane is already a death trap, it is not safe for pedestrians or cyclists [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. This is particularly bad between the hours of 4.30pm and 5.30pm when many of the workers from the industrial estate are speeding down the road much faster than the speed limit, which at 50mph on our stretch of the road, is ridiculously high, and several times in the past 12 months have cars lost control and ended up in the surrounding fields.

Grappenhall village is a picturesque village with historical value and attracts many visitors both old and young. There are very few comparable villages in Warrington and it is an asset to the heritage Warrington.

What do you think the impact of the infrastructure will be on the village?

I believe the village would not be able to cope with the additional through traffic and much the charm would be lost and this would be huge loss for all of Warrington. We need to protect these beautiful assets and look after them not exploit them

The planned infrastructure will increase the level of air pollution and this will have detrimental health risks to the Warrington residents. Warrington is already a heavily polluted town.

At the meeting I was told that the idea to change Warrington to a city was because it 'sounded better', I imagine the planner meant in order to attract business? But given we are surrounded by two very large cities and potentially an Airport City, it seems absurd to change Warrington's status to a city and you should focus on changing it into an attractive town that people want to live in. You should be looking at building affordable urban living.

This plan is not 'fit for purpose', and needs to be re-evaluated looking at brownfield sites, improving the town, creating affordable living and helping make Warrington a more prosperous town to live in.

Currently it is diminishing the green belt, the infrastructure proposals are implausible, there is danger to wildlife.

The air pollution risks are severely damaging to Warrington residents health.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Taitt