

Local Plan Objection by Belinda Wheelhouse

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Warrington
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The local plan is looking to decimate the local countryside and increase the level of car usage and air pollution. At a time when city centres need rejuvenation and global warming is making us look at how we protect the planet it seems crazy that we are giving green belt up to developers when so much can and needs to be done nearer the centre. ██████████ Grappenhall Heys ██████████ housing around here attracts commuters not people who work in Warrington. There is no new work coming to Warrington in any volumes that support such a large increase in housing stock. The commuter culture will bring more cars onto already congested roads and the idea that trams and cycle paths will take up the pressure is completely unsound. There is a car culture and major investments in infrastructure need to have been started well before this to convince residents that Warrington is serious about investment and not just making false promises.

The local area is used by many Warrington residents for recreational purposes and we already have issues with the council clearing dog bins. More importantly we have many animals whose habitat will be totally destroyed or disrupted as we enter years of building.

The roads proposed are totally insufficient and in actual fact look more orientated to bringing more HGVs into the area rather than providing residents better mobility. The local motorway exits already back up and the HGV incidents on the M6 and M56 mean we should be looking to reduce HGV usage rather than increasing it.

As a mother my adult children need properties near city centres with trendy bars and restaurants and access to public transport. We need a plan that is educating the next generation that we shouldn't need polluting cars but should be looking to become more sustainable.

We also need housing that is affordable and energy efficient as well as looking to cope with the aging population. We, like many in the area, wish to retire soon and free up our large family home but where do we go. We need to see communities created not destroyed by building houses that merge all the local areas and destroy the character of South Warrington

The local plan proposal is completely unsound and fails in its purpose to justify the usage of Green Belt. I also struggle to see how it will help with the government's goal to reduce greenhouse gases as it is just proposing the dated planning approach of giving builders access to easy build land. It is proposing unrestricted sprawl of built up areas and is not protecting our precious countryside from encroachment.

Our existing communities will all just be blended into a giant building site and the loss of recreational land to the whole of Warrington will be significant and accelerate the global warming and air pollution issues we already know are dire.

I would like to see a plan that is focussed on future living where town centres are reinvented and regenerated and where the easy option to build on green belt is seen as the last resort.

More housing and car usage is going to make this worse. Access to doctors and dentists has got worse so I also worry that building facilities is one thing but hiring professionals is the bigger national issue - how is Warrington going to handle this?

This plan is unsound in so many ways. It justifies its rational on very weak arguments and certainly does not meet the criteria laid down for eating up precious greenbelt. We need to be far more responsible with our resources now that we know the impact we are having on the environment.

Please review this plan and propose something that is truly sustainable for existing residents, local wildlife and for all the many other visitors who come here to enjoy our ever decreasing countryside.