


From: 
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: The Local Plan
Date: 13 June 2019 23:12:11

Dear Sirs,

As you will know, the local plan aims to deliver 18,900 new homes (or 945 a year, up to 2037) and will also support Warrington's ongoing economic growth by providing 362 hectares of employment land. This plan involves the loss of large parts of the Green Belt and green spaces in South Warrington, which is unsound and ill-conceived for the following reasons:

The proposed scale of the above mentioned developments is unacceptably huge, changing existing South Warrington rural villages into urban sprawl with their dependence on hitherto unknown/uncertain infrastructure plans and funding.

From a pollution based health perspective and Green Belt desecration perspective, the Local Plan is flawed and unsound.

This Local Plan involves a 'Garden Suburb' and large logistic sites and there is no clear plan to improve local roads, which, currently, can quickly become grid locked should there be any unforeseen blockage/accident on the M6 north/south or the M56 east/west motorways sited close by. This amount of new housing and unsightly warehousing development will bring gridlock to our already congested roads and through Stockton Heath.

The warehousing and logistics business is in an environmentally damaging sector with an estimated 2000 + HGV's movements per day. On this basis alone, the proposed plan is particularly ill-considered.

I understand that contrary to Government Policy /legislation, here we have a proposal for the release of green Belt land for development where exceptional circumstances do not exist; economic activity is not a sufficient reason alone. The loss of any Green Belt site cannot be reversed, for in my view the environment is so precious, it making a major contribution to the quality of life.

As a local resident in the area and with a modicum of vision and imagination, I feel that I have a duty, as has Warrington Borough Council for that matter to endeavour to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built - up areas and to safeguarding the countryside from further encroachment, for not only our own generation but also future generations. I remind the planners that five major cities i.e. Liverpool, Manchester, Salford, Preston and Chester are situated in relative close proximity.

There is a need to prevent further unrelenting traffic generation - significantly increasing pollution, continued urban sprawl and over development on land forming important gaps between existing communities i.e. Appleton Thorn, Barleycastle Lane, Grappenhall, Appleton, Stretton and potential communities. Conversely, in the present environment in South Warrington, farming activities should promote diversification opportunities and help support productive farm businesses.

I was encouraged to hear that the Council's spokesman in the introductory video stating that releasing Green Belt land is a last resort!

Yours sincerely,

Ian M. Buckley

