


From: 
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Local Plan
Date: 16 June 2019 22:58:11

To whom it may concern

Please can you explain to me why Warrington Borough Council believes that it can only deliver the Local Plan by the release of green belt for house building? The government says that this can only be done in exceptional circumstances. Unless the Council can tell the public what these exceptional circumstances are, then the building on green belt as stated in the plan is not justified and the plan is not sound. Also, as I understand it, for every piece of green belt that is taken improvements must be made to what is left. Please can the council let me know what those improvements are going to be for the residents of Lymm?

It seems very convenient that the first phase of building is going to take place on green belt in Lymm. 430 houses by 2022 on lovely, uncontaminated, easy to develop green belt land. Does this by any chance have anything to do with the generation of income for the council from high council tax on these new properties? Please explain to me the reasons behind this if this is not the case.

Green belt is there to stop the sprawl of development and to stop neighbouring settlements from merging and encroaching on the surrounding countryside. Building on the green belt as proposed in the Local Plan goes directly against this. The view when approaching Lymm, Stretton, Appleton Thorn, Grappenhall and Walton will be dramatically changed. Where is the justification for this? The plan is not sound.

The loss of hedgerows, ponds and wildlife habitat will have a detrimental effect on bird, small mammal and insect life. In a time when the natural world is in crisis, we should all, including our local authority, be doing all we can to help protect our local environment. This is particularly important due to the impact that the local plan will have on the level of traffic pollution in Lymm and the surrounding villages from the increased traffic on our local roads and motorway. Has the council taken a serious and realistic account of the effect of traffic - cars and in particular lorries - on the air quality in Warrington? I have a child who is already effected by the pollutants in our air and I am extremely concerned about the impact that an increase in traffic will have on him and all residents. And, by the way, the suggestion that new cycle routes will help is ridiculous! Who is going to want to cycle into Warrington with lorries thundering past them and breathing in exhaust fumes??? The difference that a few fool hardy residents will have by deciding to cycle into Warrington will have no impact what so ever on air quality or congestion. This part of the plan is not sound.

Can you also explain why the is the Council not considering building housing in the centre of Warrington first, then moving outwards? How can massive developments in the surrounding villages do anything to re generate the town centre? Quality, affordable housing in the town centre would surely help to create a vibrant place where young people would want to work, and afford to live and shop? Who wants to sit in traffic for an hour from the "Garden Suburb" whilst trying to get into the town centre on a congested, inadequate road infrastructure?? No one. Residents will take their business elsewhere.

In terms of infrastructure for the new "Garden Suburb", can you please tell me where you are going to find the GPs, health and social care workers for the new medical practices, teachers for the new schools, police and police community support officers to keep these new places safe whilst maintaining the existing over stretched and chronically underfunded services in Warrington?

It can take over a week to get a doctors appointment in Lymm. Antisocial behaviour has been a steadily increasing problem for our village which I am certain is due to a decrease in PCSO and police presence. The PCSOs in Lymm are very dedicated to their job but It is an impossible task when there are only two officers, working a week each on their own and leaving Lymm for 1 week in every 3 without cover! (We are luckier than most as we have the luxury of 2 PCSOs!) How on earth are they going to cope with the increase in population that at least 430 new homes in Lymm is going to bring let alone the pressure that 7,000 new homes in South Warrington will have on our police force overall not to mention our health and social care services.

I would urge Warrington Borough Council to please listen seriously to the concerns of its residents. We all know that there are issues to be addressed and progress needs to be made to sustain the needs of an increasing population and the future of jobs and businesses in Warrington but please make the right choices. Don't just

take the easy option by bulldozing over the lovely villages surrounding Warrington that makes this area of the country such a great place to live.

Thank you.

Jodi Smith

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