

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Warrington Local Plan Consultation
Date: 13 June 2019 12:38:29

I would like to make the following comments about the proposed Warrington Local Plan:

- It appears that not much has changed from the plan submitted in 2017 that prompted over 4,000 responses from local residents and therefore comments made at that time are still relevant;
- Traffic across south Warrington is already a major concern for local residents. A small incident on one of the motorway links can bring the whole of Warrington to a standstill as motorists try to find alternative routes through and around the town centre. The Local Plan is very vague on details for roads and does not come close to adequately considering the impact of the proposed new housing / employment zones on the roads and infrastructure;
- Continued reliance on three Victorian swing bridges as the only routes into the town centre from the south east does not seem sustainable when considering the scope of the proposed development;
- Defra have previously published air quality data that indicated a large increase in air pollution in Warrington, with potentially unsafe levels being reached on 7 days in 2017 (I would imagine that the hot summer in 2018 will have resulted in an increase in that number last year although I have not found any reports on this). The A49, particularly through Stockton Heath, is severely congested for several hours of every day, and any increase in the volume of traffic will have a huge impact on air quality for the many local residents. This issue is not adequately addressed in the plan;
- The loss of large areas of green belt and green space across south Warrington is a major concern. The plan reduces Warrington's green belt by 11% with almost all the land targeted being in south Warrington. Why should one area be so severely impacted? The environmental and ecological impact of this has not been properly assessed. I am concerned about flash flooding which is increasingly becoming more problematic across the country due to the impact of climate change and the heavy volumes of rainfall that can occur in short periods of time. It is well documented that eliminating green areas exacerbates this problem.
- It is not clear that the growth predictions are realistic and it seems that there is an assumption that the new housing will create economic benefit and growth instead of the other way round;
- Overall it feels that the proposed volume of development is not justified, will be harmful to the local environment and will destroy the character of local villages.

I hope you will take these comments and concerns of other local residents into account.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Tracey McNab

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