

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Fw: MAIN MODIFICATIONS 2023
Date: 27 April 2023 00:30:35

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Also meant to include an article from a Newspaper from a couple of months ago - please do take a read, at least of the part I've copied below about Green Belt - "Other changes were for the green belt to be protected by issuing fresh guidance to councils saying they would not need to consider such land to deliver homes."

Here's a link

https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/dec/21/brownfield-sites-identified-redevelopment-lying-dormant-england?fbclid=IwAR1dKpFojTfmFISFA-3ad8YFkj3O1LS10vM4KXozFufbu61R7_tuLR8U1JU



Brownfield sites with room for 1.2m homes unused in England, report says

Analysis by CPRE shows record number of sites where housing could be built at time of national shortage

www.theguardian.com

"A record number of brownfield sites in **England** that have been identified for redevelopment and could provide 1.2m homes are lying dormant, according to an analysis.

The scale of the accommodation that could be built emerged after the countryside charity CPRE analysed 344 brownfield land registers, which identify **urban sites** that have previously been built on, which are available for housing.

The amount of land available covered 27,342 hectares (67,563 acres) in 2022, 6% more than in 2021. It has the capacity to provide 1.2m homes at a time of nationwide housing crisis.

This month, the prime minister, Rishi Sunak, **dropped plans** for compulsory housing targets after threats of a backbench rebellion. Amendments to the levelling up and regeneration bill include potentially fining companies that fail to build on land despite having planning consent and letting councils refuse further

permission across their area.

Other changes were for the green belt to be protected by issuing fresh guidance to councils saying they would not need to consider such land to deliver homes."

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 April 2023 23:00

To: localplan@warrington.gov.uk <localplan@warrington.gov.uk>

Subject: MAIN MODIFICATIONS 2023

Dear Sir / Madam

Re: Main Modifications to Warrington Local Plans

As a resident of South Warrington I feel compelled to write in opposition to some of the modifications made to the local plans:

1. REMOVAL OF GREENBELT / BUILDING ON GREEN FIELD SITES

Firstly, and arguably most importantly, a lot of the development in South Warrington is on agricultural and green belt land. The building on green field sites, before using every possible inch of brown field site, and the removal of green belt is wholly unacceptable at all times, but especially given the climate emergency we all now face.

If we weren't aware of it before, the recent BBC series 'Wild Isles' set in the UK spelt out, in very plain language, the sorry state the UK is in. In the last 50 years, 38 million birds have vanished from UK skies, 97% of our wildflower meadows have been lost since the 1930s, and a quarter of all our mammals, including water voles and Greater mouse-eared bats, are at risk of extinction. The nature crisis and climate change are two sides of the same coin, so protecting nature is key to stopping the destruction of our planet and our way of life.

I live on [REDACTED], 10 minutes walk to Lumb Brook Valley / the Dingle ancient woodland and we regularly see and hear all sorts of birds, animals and insects, owls, woodpeckers, bats, kingfishers to name just a few. Losing the greenbelt that protects one side of those woods would be devastating to the wildlife there, destroying habitats and uprooting many of the animals.

The National Trust, the World Wildlife Fund and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds – 3 of the UK's largest conservation charities, with over 300 years of combined experience have come together to use their collective voice to call on all sectors of society in the UK to take action and halt the destruction of UK nature. The Save Our Wild Isles campaign is a serious effort to highlight the importance of nature and how it underpins everything that makes our lives possible, and shows how profoundly threatened it is. These three charities say there is enough of the UK's natural world left to save, but needs

everyone – the public, businesses, and our leaders – our councils, to all urgently work together to help, not hinder, it's recovery. Destroying vital, precious greenbelt is a destructive act to be taking in 2023 with all the knowledge we have, and it is our duty to find alternatives. We can be creative and imaginative in our solutions to housing problems, destroying nature is not a viable option and I urge to rethink destroying green fields and removing green belt. I feel the plans need to exhausts brownfield sites before any more fields in Warrington are built up. These areas also absorb CO2 and help with air quality in Warrington, something that needs all the help it can get.

2. INFRASTRUCTURE

I think anybody who regularly drives around South Warrington would recognise the roads are not built for any more houses as the infrastructure is very poor already. When the traffic is bad on either of the two busy motorways, the M6 & the M56, the area is regularly at stand still, with 'pinch points' at the swing bridges across the Manchester Ship Canal, and Lumb Brook Bridge canal bridge. The addition of more houses and the inevitable cars would be bad for traffic and pollution.

3. COST

Building in the area of South Warrington does not solve the problem of affordable housing, as there are very few house in this area that will be sold for less than £250,000, which very few first time buyers could afford.

4. NECESSITY

These plans are based upon old population figures from almost ten years ago and out of date. Surely we should be asking if the same numbers of houses are needed now that population growth is far lower than it was when these plans were written.

In conclusion I think the numbers of houses planned for a town that was never built or adapted to accommodate such numbers would be disastrous, for pollution levels, for traffic and poor living conditions and most importantly for nature – once we build on our natural habitats it is very difficult to get them back and I urge you to rethink your plans. We need to protect our town, and make it greener, not less green.

Thanks for reading my points, I look forward to hearing from you.

Kate Brown