

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Draft Local Plan Consultation
Date: 16 June 2019 16:38:09

Dear Council,

I am writing to express my view that the Draft Local Plan put forward by Warrington Borough Council is unsound, unrealistic, and morally unjustifiable. Please see below a summary of points with which I wish to illustrate my opposition.

- The housing numbers proposed are far too high, based on official population increase predictions. The council cannot justify almost doubling the number of houses needed per year. The unfathomable trade of valuable green space for profit and development is immoral.
- Future economic growth in the town is at best wildly exaggerated, and at worst, fanciful.
- There is no moral justification for Green Belt land to be released to accommodate predicted population growth. There are no given 'exceptional circumstances' that would indicate a need to release Green Belt land. Brown field sites should always be used first, and following last weeks' announcement that Fiddler's Ferry power station will close in 2020, providing acres of Brown field site, surely the draft local plan must now be reassessed.
- There is already proven congestion and poor air quality around Stockton Heath; frequent gridlock will increase substantially with the Local Plan, but there is no clear or detailed solution to this; no funding mentioned.
- It is unbelievable that the council cannot promise that the new schools and medical centers which will be needed will be provided for.
- This plan the council has drafted appears to be unaware of, or blind to, all current research regarding climate change, the infinitely damaging impact of the loss of wildlife habitats, and a need to change our economic strategies if we are to save our planet for future generations, not to mention the vital importance of nature in the promotion of good mental health.

It is evident that the council does not hold the best interests of the residents of South Warrington at heart if it is willing to transform the area into one huge housing estate, thereby changing forever the character of this area. It is our moral responsibility to protect irreplaceable wildlife, and the proposed plan is the absolute antithesis of this. To conclude, I find the Draft Local Plan to be totally unsound.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth Oakes