From:
To: Local Plan

Subject: Fw: objection to Local Plan (LP-PSV)

Date: 16 June 2019 23:36:02

From: Fiona McDougall



I want to lodge my objection to the proposed Local Plan, which I believe is unsound and undeliverable, for several reasons, as follows:

Lack of infrastructure

1) Roads: Warrington's road system is dysfunctional at the best of times, in large part (but not entirely) due to the limited number of canal/river crossing form the south into and out of the town centre. Creating almost 8000 new families, most of which will have at least one, normally 2 cars, all of whom will need to cross into an out of Warrington for work, shopping, leisure or healthcare on a regular basis, will put un unsustainable strain on the already fit to burst road network. The additional stationary and slow moving traffic will vastly increase the amount of pollution in the air, and Warrington is already recognised as one of the worst cities or towns in UK for health-endangering particulates, which have been linked to increases in the number and seriousness of asthma conditions, and more recently with impaired mental development of children. What sort of legacy is that to leave for our residents?

In addition, the roads serving South Warrington in the Grappenhall/ Appleton areas are, in the main, local, narrow roads which are already straining under the amount of lorries from the industrial and logistics sites near Appleton Thorn. Adding literally thousands of additional HGVs into the daily traffic with the proposed Six/56 development will clog the roads even more - and that is before the building of the almost 8000 new homes - whose occupants will all need to travel by car no matter if the Six/56 people say they will build cycle lanes along the road next to their development: who will want to take their life into their hands on a daily basis to cycle next to HGVs thundering past, or breath in the fumes of slow moving cars and trucks as they do so?

All the transport plan seems to offer is a "rat run" as alternative route for HGVs to come off the M56 at Junction 10 - cutting though the new estates that are proposed to be built and making it dangerous for families to walk or cycle beyond the estate boundaries and so forcing people to make yet more car journeys.

Finally, WBC will be sentencing residents of South Warrington to 20 years of continuous disruption as these homes and logistics sites are constructed - road closures, diversions onto smaller roads, mess, dust pollution noise pollution, etc.

2) Healthcare, Education, Social/ recreational facilities - none of these are guaranteed in the local plan, putting an impossible stain on existing services.

Wellbeing:

- 1) Obesity crisis: obesity is a ticking tine bomb for the whole nation and requires responsible, forward looking action from national and local government alike. It is recognised that lifestyle plays a significant part in obesity levels, and that exercise needs to have a role in helping to reduce them. The most easily accessible, affordable exercise for everyone and especially children is walking or running or cycling outdoors. Concreting over all the green belt areas, introducing thousands more HGVs to the local roads, putting a rat run dual carriage way through the new estates, increasing pollution levels in the air will all stop people who might otherwise have tried to get exercise into their and their children's lifestyles.
- 2) Mental and emotional well-being: another national crisis is mental health. It has been shown that getting out into nature, space, fresh air, can significantly help people's emotional and mental well-being. WBC will be taking this opportunity away from its residents, leaving people in a downward spiral of depression and ill health (for which there will be scant resources to turn to for help, under the new plan). You'd never open a zoo these days where the animals are kept cramped up together with no space or replication of natural habitat everyone has seen images of what that can do to elephants or polar bears why subject our own residents, new and existing to that?!

Lack of justifiable reason to release greenbelt land for development:

There is no justifiable reason for this. The number of houses planned is over-ambitions, unsupportable, will create more harm than good, and is higher than the number required by government. The logistics development owners promise jobs, but promises of this ilk are never delivered (reference Omega development in Warrington, or Donald Trump's development in Aberdeenshire to name but two examples). Furthermore, the Six/56 representative I spoke to admitted that they had not calculated in the impact that Artificial Intelligence will have on the number of jobs the logistics development will be able to sustain. The promised jobs will not materialise! Please do not destroy our area and communities based on false promises.