From:
To: Local Plan

Cc:
Subject: Local Plan

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The local plan has many problematic issues but I would like to comment on two particular areas designated for development.

I am particularly concerned about the impact on green space as we are consistently told that:

- It effectively absorbs carbon dioxide and other pollutants, and
- Having access to, and being in such spaces is beneficial to our mental and physical health.

Port Warrington at Moore

The plans for this area would seem to remove both an open space enjoyed by many Warrington residents, and furthermore destroy a valuable habitat for wildlife and nature. The infrastructure servicing this area is really only suitable for the level of use it currently has. Allowing Peel Holdings (and Peel Environmental) to pressure the Council into building additional infrastructure will degrade the quality of life for Warrington residents and will not generate a true benefit in the long term, leading to the destruction of both a valuable wildlife habitat and a resource for visitors. Any mitigation suggested by the addition of 'new' open space allowing access to the now-closed Arpley tip will not produce equivalent habitats (a glance at the aerial photo online will quickly show this).

Peel Hall

From the early days of the New Town there have been no plans to provide the level of infrastructure necessary to service this area (and those that were planned nearby – the Northern Expressway – have been discarded). Again it is an area of open space that is threatened, a lung for North Warrington that provides a home for wildlife, a space for locals to enjoy and a sink for the fumes from the M62. Satnam have had a policy of stalling the environment in Peel Hall by not using this land for any agricultural purpose at all, and spraying and rough ploughing to provide 'evidence' that this area is not of value to nature. Allowing any development here will not only remove a valuable green space but increase the infrastructure pressure on the existing localities and that in turn will impact upon the mental and physical wellbeing of those who already live here. The wider arguments have been well rehearsed in the various planning meetings and are still relevant.

We need more well-managed green spaces, not less. Some of these spaces will be needed to help meet the Government's new target commitment to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. We should be developing woodlands and restoring peat bogs throughout the borough, not destroying our future on the altar of mass development of houses, then industry, and then infrastructure.

