

Cheshire West & Chester Council

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Planning

Cheshire West and Chester Council

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Date: 15 November 2021

Dear Michael,

CONSULTATION ON WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL'S UPDATED PROPOSED SUBMISSION VERSION LOCAL PLAN (2021)

Thank you for consulting Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) on the Updated Proposed Submission Draft Version Local Plan 2021-2038 (September 2021). Clearly, a significant amount of work has gone into the document and the accompanying evidence base and we welcome the opportunity to comment on it.

CWaC recognises the work that has been undertaken to date and the commitment to working with neighbouring authorities and key bodies such as Highways England and notes the move away from the Garden Suburb concept in South Warrington (4,200 new homes in the plan period), and instead including new proposals for a South East Warrington Urban Extension, with a reduced allocation of 2,400 new homes during the plan period.

However, the CWaC still has some concerns relating to the proposed allocations at: MD2 South East Warrington Urban Extension and MD6 South East Warrington Employment Area and would like to fully understand the potential impact on both CWaC's road network and the Strategic Road Network, which can hopefully be resolved at our meeting next week.

In relation to the 'Warrington Updated Proposed Submission Version Local Plan 2021-2038 (September 2021)' CWaC has the following comments:

Policy ENV 3

- CWaC notes that the 2020 Waste Data Interrogator indicates that Warrington currently does not send any inert or hazardous landfill to Cheshire West and Chester, but that Warrington did send 11,771 tonnes of non-hazardous landfill, which we would consider to be a strategic amount (our threshold is 5,000 tonnes).

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- While CWaC currently has sufficient landfill capacity, this is dependent on permitted landfill sites coming forward. Therefore, CWaC supports paragraph 9.1.14 and Warrington's commitment to work in partnership with its neighbours in the region through the North West Waste Network, of which CWaC are also members.

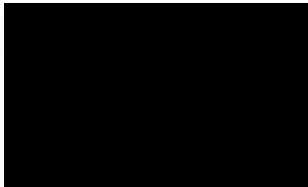
Policy ENV4

- The updated Local Plan identifies that the 2019 LAA for Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Halton and Warrington states that the landbank in that sub-region is now only 4.4 years, based on 10-year average sales and that no new sites have been identified in Warrington.
- Policy ENV4 attempts to deal with this issue through a criteria-based policy for future extraction, however, paragraph 9.4.2 identifies that no suitable new sites have been identified, so it is possible that no sites will come forward, leading to a future deficit and potential need for additional sand and gravel from other areas, including Cheshire West and Chester. This is particularly important as Greater Manchester is in a similar situation (according to the LAA).
- Going forward, CWaC would suggest that to be effective, this is managed through the North West Aggregate Working Party.

I would like to highlight that this is an Officer view only. I trust that the comments are helpful, and we would welcome the opportunity to continue our joint working through the finalisation of our Statement of Common Ground in due course.

If you require any further explanation, please contact me.

Yours sincerely



Rob Charnley



Cheshire West and Chester Council