From:	
То:	Local Plan
Subject:	A residents views on the local plan
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My name is Mark Roach and I have lived at since 1998 and believe I will be affected negatively by these plans. I have no problems with building more houses, understand the need and agree even if it uses more greenbelt.

I researched the council plans and the response by SWP and appreciate that changes have been made but believe the council needs to go further and be much bolder with road infrastructure and concentrate more on developing our town centre which it has done a great job on so far. More needs to be done to encourage local people to shop in Warrington rather than travel to Manchester and Liverpool. I also think more should be done to re-introduce more people to live in Town centre and brownfield sites where they are available.

My experience from living here and commuting by car to my place of work in North Warrington over the last 23 years, leads me to believe that unless improvements are made to the road infrastructure then additional home and businesses in South Warrington will make what is bad situation even worse.

My journey to work takes around 40 mins and has doubled over the last 23 years and that is with very little housebuilding in south Warrington during this time. The extra traffic is due to the number of households who have 2 or 3 cars. This has increased considerably and is evident by the amount of on-street parking that has increased dramatically since I first arrived when it was the exception.

(Below I have copied some text from parts of the SWP papers as they put the points across well, but please know I share these concerns as an individual, this is not just a cut and paste exercise)

All this additional traffic is having an effect on Air Quality and I was staggered to here from SWP that Warrington is identified by the World Health Organisation as being in the top 5 towns/cities in England that exceeds the pollutants limit. It is therefore likely that the proposed new housing in South Warrington together with the Six/56 will have a deleterious effect upon air quality and noise, particularly in existing congested locations such as Stockton Heath and Latchford Village.

It appears there is no strategy being put forward as to how existing highway congested pinch points are to be relieved at Stockton Heath High Street, Stockton Heath Swing Bridge – there should be plans to make these traffic free areas which boast would the local business and improve the quality of life for local residents. There appears to be no strategy being put forward as to how existing highway congested pinch points are to be relieved Lumb Brook Underpass Bridge, Knutsford Road Swing Bridge, and the Latchford/Kingsway gyratory. The effects of the increased domestic and commercial traffic on the existing highway infrastructure will i.e. A49, A50, A56, bring increased pollution, noise and congestion.

LTP4 (apart from the Western Link which adds little or no benefit for the majority of South Warrington commuters) excludes any significant improvements or forward investment in the south of Warrington's highway infrastructure in terms of existing roads and bridge crossings of all three waterways (Bridgewater Canal, Manchester Ship Canal and the River Mersey). Congestion at these key points will only get worse resulting in more pollution and potential health issues.

There needs to a strategy for managing the adverse effects from increased LGV/HGV movements, including those that would result from the proposed Six/56 employment park, and Warrington Business Park developments etc. There is no rail or water access to either the Six/56 which will inevitably strengthen the focus of freight movement exclusively upon road vehicles.

The additional car and commercial traffic will have an adverse impact on the local community on the A49, A56, A50 and in particular Stockton Heath High Street, Stretton Village, Grappenhall Road, London Road, Lumb Brook Underbridge, Wilderspool Causeway and Latchford Village. I'm not sure the proposed Cat and Lion relief strategic link road will reduce traffic travelling from Stockton Heath via the A49 to the M56 J10. SWP have put forward an alternative solution i.e. connect the proposed relief road directly to the M56 J10 which I think would be a far better solution (as per The 1973 Warrington New Town Outline Plan)

I don't believe changes in public behaviour, including walking, cycling and bus patronage will help as people in South Warrington like their cars and bus use has fallen by almost 50% over the past decade, I understand this is due to higher car ownership, Town Centre retail decline (which is a lot better than it was) and traffic congestion resulting in lack of bus reliability, and relatively high fares.

There needs to be a program to replace the three 19th century swing bridges (c.125 years old).

So that's it from me, in summary more road infrastructure to go with the building of new houses or it is going to make life unpleasant and unhealthy for the next generation. Thank you Mark.