From:
To:
Local Plan

Subject: Objection to the Thelwall Heys devlopment

Date: 11 November 2021 16:16:36

Good afternoon

I wanted to write to you today outlining my serious concerns for this new development proposed for Thelwall Heys.

My Husband and I are two young professionals who work in Manchester and chose to move to Thelwall last year to live a suburban life back where we both grew up. As a young family I have so many concerns for the new development and I am someone who believes redevelopment and regenerations is curtail for the area.

- Regeneration of the dilapidating town centre brown belt instead of the greenbelt we should be fighting hard to project. Green areas are shrinking year on year across the north west. One key reason why we moved back here was for our mental health. Being able to get out into open field every day. Exploring the nature around us and escaping the corporate worlds we operate in 5 days a week. How are innocent children expected to grow up in an urbanised jungle. Learning nothing about the natural world, respecting nature and animals and growing up in a poor air quality village. I am all for regenerations. In fact, Warrington itself is in dire need of it. Some of the areas really need redeveloping and there is plenty of brown belt space that is currently not being utilised by offices or housing. Why are new houses not being built here. This is the complete opposite from what we should be doing. Our generation is solely responsible for stopping the devastating effects of climate change. I am worried the council and team who have proposed this plan are representing an older generation and not understanding the importance of future proofing the area for generations to come. Our children, our grandchildren are not going to know what a field looks like if we aren't careful.
- Is there even a need for houses in this area. There is a massive plot of greenbelt that is being built on at Grappenhall Heys. So many houses are being built and this is only down the road. There is not a requirement for more in this area specifically. This amount of new housing is already going to put a lot of pressure on the local infrastructure. We don't even have the infrastructure to support the number of houses in the area at the movement. Are you planning to fund and build a new primary school? how about a new GP surgery? My family and I still can't even register for a dentist anywhere around the area. Is this in the plan? We are a decent sized village that doesn't even have a single coffee shop... are we living in the 1960's? Yes, that is a very 3rd world problem but how about regenerating the area to actually make it somewhere younger families want to live and stay. A community where families feel supported, and that they can thrive instead of feeling like we are being encourage to buy elsewhere in our need move to meet our family's needs. It is

so sad that after a year of living in Thelwall we are contemplating moving out of the area in our next move already and the council show very little intension of listening to the needs and wants of its very own community. I want my children to grow up with opportunities, prospect and plenty of things going on in the local community. The expansion of the village is only going to make the prospect of this worse and worse.

• The flood risk. The flooding in the area is terrible. the drainage system clearly cannot support the volume of water we receive and this is getting worse year on year. Getting rid of the green belt fields to add more concrete, cement, bricks, foundations, tarmac.... what is the plan for the drainage system? How is it going to be able to support more water drain off from these hard substances? The flooding is already a serious concern for us as last year our garden was so closed to flooding into our house. We have had to add in some extra drainage system into our garden to prevent this from happening. This should not be solely our responsibility to try and alleviate the consequences of the council not sorting out adequate drainage for the village.

To strengthen the ever-weakening Warrington economy we should be created an area full of prosperity, hope, outdoor spaces, green living, parks for children to play in, a community for families to thrive and support each other, easy transport links and / or a smooth commute for professionals commuting to bigger cities. Cramming in more houses into an area at high risk of flooding, removing the very reason why we moved to Thelwall (the green space) and increasing the congestion in and out of the area makes it impossible to want to every stay around this area. And this most definitely will not attract families like ours who would positively contributing to the area, community and council for many years to come.

It saddens me to think of what this beautiful village will look like in 5-10 years.

These are the opinions of a 28 year old professional woman who wants a great future for the next generation. I know the council is not represented by people like me, but I hope you read this email and empathise with the concerns I, and many like me in the area have. Unfortunately, we often feel like our views won't be listened to by Warrington Borough Council and consequently many people do not put their objections and concerns down on paper. I would be more than happy to come and discuss these with whomever may be interested at the council. It is important we develop the village without hindering the lives of the current residents.

Regards

Rhianna Ritchie