

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Warrington Local Plan
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Here we go again. Our councillors trying to go forward without having a clue what they are doing.

The local plan is a joke. What part of Green Belt do they not understand? To reduce the amount of Green Belt in our area even by 5% is a crime against the people of Warrington now, and the future generations, who will have to endure the decimation of the Green Belt that the council is proposing. We only have to look at the dying and decaying town centre beyond the new market area to see the "foresight" of our elected few. Building homes in the town centre, while still building shopping facilities outside the town (eg Winwick Quay) is just one example of the back to front thinking that we have to put up with in this town.

As if wanting to build on Green Belt land isn't enough, no thought has been put into infrastructure to support any growth. Infrastructure needs to be in place BEFORE any new building takes place, not added as an afterthought, as would appear to be the case with this so-called plan. The current infrastructure in the south east area of the town, which will be affected by all this, is already creaking and straining under the pressure, with the lack of any decent transport system in place. Roads which channel into 19th century swing bridges to approach the town centre cannot support any further development. They already are partly responsible for the town's high pollution rating, due to the high volume of traffic causing regular traffic queues, not to mention the effect when a ship in the canal causes the bridges to be closed to traffic.

The bus service between the town centre and Grappenhall, Thelwall, Statham and Lymm especially is not fit for purpose, all buses taking an unnecessary long route into town via Stockton Heath, instead of the direct route down Knutsford Rd. It's no wonder patronage has diminished on these services, Covid pressures aside, with less people using Public Transport to get into town for work, access to the town's stations, for shopping or for leisure. During Lockdowns, people have discovered they can be in town much quicker by driving, thereby further increasing the congestion.

No, the plan needs urgently to be re-assessed. Use of Green Belt land should in all instances be banned. We need the green areas, in particular looking towards the future, with Global Warming to the fore at the moment. With our "bread and vegetable basket" areas in the east of the country at risk of being under water in not too many years time, the emphasis for growing food will shift westwards. Our Green Belt land in this part of the country therefore will take on an important role in the future in providing food for a growing population. Any loss to housing and warehousing now will never be reversed, and the children and grandchildren of today will, in the future, look with scorn on the councillors of today for their lack of foresight and their stupidity.

Yes, our council is, and has been for years, been run by a collective bunch of idiots. Shame on them if this plan goes ahead. You will be reviled by future generations.

Nick Thomson
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