

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: South East Warrington Development Objection
Date: 13 November 2021 13:42:37

Dear Sirs

I am writing to object in the strongest terms to the proposed development plan covering South East Warrington. There are more reasons that I care to mention why this plan is unconscionable, but here are a selection:

An extra 4,200 houses means possibly an extra 10,000 people or more, assuming most houses built are family homes. Each house will have 2 to 3 cars and no doubt in keeping with all new build estate these days (including the one I currently live on) there will not be sufficient parking for this many cars, and streets will be littered with cars, making them dangerous for people crossing and walking in the area.

Those extra people will include school age children. I believe the council has estimated that the number of children expected would require 3 new schools. Each of those 10,000 people will require a doctors surgery and a dentist. At the moment it is impossible to find an NHS dentist in the area, and even before the pandemic it was nigh on impossible to see a doctor without booking 2 weeks in advance for your emergency appointment. As far as I can see there is no provision to make adding schools, dentists and doctors a compulsory part of any development. These 10,000 extra people will also need to visit the hospital on occasion, if they can get there through the gridlocked traffic, yet trying to get an appointment at our hospital, or even get through A&E without a 12 hour wait is impossible.

Anyone who has lived in Stockton Heath and Appleton (which I have for my whole life) knows that at certain times of the day the traffic is at a standstill already. The Manchester Ship Canal has a funnel effect on all traffic with the limited bridge crossings, meaning that anyone living on one side of the canal and working on the other joins the gridlock daily to and from work. The toll on the new Runcorn Widnes bridge a few years ago increased this traffic as people sought to avoid the toll and drive through Warrington instead. People find shortcuts around traffic by driving down roads not built to carry so much traffic. Add an extra 8,000 to 12,000 cars to the South Warrington roads and nobody moves, side roads become even more congested and owning a car becomes pointless. Which would also be fine if public transport was fit for purpose. But anyone living in Grappenhall Heys, Appleton and Appleton Thorn knows that buses are few and far between and don't run some routes on Sundays, so a car is invaluable.

There are precious few enough green spaces in South Warrington already, but we are lucky enough to have a few areas that still feel rural such as the Dingle, and Grappenhall Heys. These are heavily used by walkers both with children and dogs, and this is the only bit of green that some children get to see. Research has shown that children (and adults in fact) benefit both physically and mentally from escaping to green spaces. Whilst tiny slivers of these areas may remain they will be sandwiched between high density housing developments, and will no longer feel in the slightest but rural. Turning South Warrington into a urban jungle will be detrimental to everyone's health.

And then we get onto air pollution. Whilst cleaner transport is on the horizon it will take many years after the 2030 deadline for the ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars for the air quality to start to improve. Second hand cars will be around for a long time after this point and so the extra 8,000 to 12,000 cars will add yet more pollution, causing asthma and other lung problems which will then put even more pressure on the hospital.

The scale of the development being proposed appears to be so much greater than the expected growth of Warrington, so whilst I do understand that with an increasing population we need

increasing housing, this proposal appears totally out of proportion to what is needed.

I'll just wrap up by saying that if this proposal is approved then over the years you'll find people that have grown up and happily lived in South Warrington all their lives moving away as all the character of the area that we all love so much will be leached away with every house built. I can't see that I will remain here.

Kind regards

Lesley Hill

Stockton Heath