

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Plan](#)
Subject: Re proposal to take Thelwall Heys out of Green Belt
Date: 13 November 2021 15:11:19

To whom it may concern

I strongly disagree with the local plan proposal for the Thelwall Heys development and find it unsound because:

GREENBELT

- Thelwall Heys was appointed Greenbelt status in the early 2000s. W.B.C. defended this Greenbelt in 2006 when developers tried to overturn this decision, so why now?
- We need to keep Greenbelt as 'buffers' to prevent urban sprawl.
- Our villages are precious and need to be kept separate to preserve the unique character of South Warrington.
- There is no justification for the predicted scale of Greenbelt release which will destroy the landscape and character of our villages.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING

- Open space is vitally important.
- We enjoy the 'open countryside' that our Greenbelt provides and is the reason we choose to move here away from urbanisation and poor air quality that accompanies it, and are prepared to pay large sums of money for property and council tax to live here.
- We wish to continue to enjoy our valued green spaces.

AGRICULTURAL LAND ON THELWALL HEYS

- Prime agricultural land (noted in the 2004 W.B.C.-commissioned landscape appraisal).
- Distinctive landscape - mature trees and hedgerows to be preserved.
- Existing Grade 2 listed property severely compromised.

WILDLIFE

- Have recent in-depth long-term environmental surveys been carried out? No evidence of this since the previous survey in 2004 that showed 32 different bird species of vital importance, also countless insects and pondlife, and wild animals.
- All this would be lost for ever.

FLOODING

- There is already a serious flooding issue frequently making our area impassable.
- Rain water rushes through our garages and gardens during heavy rain and our drains and infrastructure can't cope as it is.

- Water lies around for ages and the local council do nothing about clearing grids that have been blocked for years. Nothing will change there.
- Building on Greenbelt will exacerbate this problem massively, covering the Thelwall Heys green space with tarmac and concrete with no suitable infrastructure in place would pose a huge flooding risk to the whole area.
- The cost of installing suitable infrastructure around this area and obviously beyond would be phenomenal.

ACCESS

- There is no obvious suitable access to Thelwall Heys without posing serious safety concerns which the plan seems to dismiss.
- With ever increasing reliance on road usage on already congested roads and bridges, coping with an influx of an extra 600+ vehicles a day entering and leaving Thelwall Heys would put tremendous strain on our roads and motorway junctions, already stretched to the limit.
- When the Latchford swing bridge is off there are huge traffic queues, emergency services cannot get through and vehicle drivers are delayed and frustrated.
- The A50 is frequently at a standstill when traffic is diverted from a motorway incident. Hundreds of extra vehicles would add to the problem.
- Weaste Lane and Cliff Lane are far too narrow even now to cope with all the traffic that constantly uses them, and speeding is an ongoing issue.

FACILITIES

- Pressure on education, health facilities and recreational outlets is already stretched to the limit. G.P.s are overloaded as it is, and local schools couldn't cope.
- A massive increase in population would add to the problem.

BROWNFIELD SITES

- Is release of Greenbelt really justifiable given the fact that the focus should be on the development of brownfield sites first?

Having laid out my objections to the proposed Local Plan, I wonder how it can be viable 'without having a material impact on the functioning of Warrington's Greenbelt in this area.'

So I say a firm NO to the local plan and am very worried about its repercussions.

Janice Brown



