From: To: Local Plan Subject: Local plan Date:

14 November 2021 10:16:09



To whom it may concern

Although appreciating that local authorities need to provide adequate housing for their residents we would like to raise the following points regarding the proposed local plan.

Firstly we feel that all existing Brown Field sites should be utilised for development before any land is removed from the Green Belt. Development of existing sites near the town centre would help to regenerate it, as it has, in recent years become extremely run down especially with prestigious stores such as M&S and more recently Debenhams having left Golden Square. The land that Fiddlers Ferry occupies could become available for development and this should be considered before any suggestion of using Green Belt land.

At a time when climate change is so important to many of us in Warrington removal of land from the green belt for development can only be seen as ludicrous. Have WBC not considered the wealth of flora and fauna that exists in the Green Belt areas? We need more trees in Warrington not less. We need to reduce our carbon footprint not increase it and trees are essential if we are not to further damage our environment!

During the pandemic we have seen how important our green spaces are to local residents. To take these away would deprive people of much needed exercise through fields and woods. There would be detrimental impact on people's mental health if they were deprived of the opportunity to get out into these green spaces.

Warrington has the dubious accolade of being one of the most air polluted towns in the country. To build more houses on green belt land with the subsequent increase in car use would be highly irresponsible in our opinion. Roads such as the A50 and A56 in south Warrington are now regularly congested creating increased pollution as they wait in traffic jams. More cars will only exacerbate the situation. The effects on air quality of increased car use are obvious and again contradict the attempts to reverse Climate Change. We need less pollution not more!

Any proposed Logistics Development near the M6/M56 junction will further add to the traffic problems which already exist and will in our opinion provide limited employment opportunities for the area. The Thelwall Viaduct is already congested at peak periods and traffic is often at a standstill. More vehicles will only add to this congestion and its subsequent impact on air pollution.

If WBC consider themselves to be a forward thinking council then air pollution and climate change should be at the forefront of their planning.

Graham Danson and Amanda Yardley