From:

To:

Local Plan

Subject: Re SWP Warrington local plan consultation comments

Date: 14 November 2021 11:05:17

Dear sirs,

Please see below my thoughts in opposition of the proposed Warrington Local Plan consultation;

Lack of sound transport infrastructure plans to support such a significant number of new homes. The roads are already at grid-lock at key times, both towards the town centre and motorway junctions.

Increased pressure on local amenities; schools, health care, public transport. All of which are struggling already.

No clear details for building on brownfield sites and town centre regeneration, before using greenfield spaces. Need clear plans and projections before releasing green spaces. In my onion they should be a last resort and only when there is a clear and measurable benefit.

Really very unclear about employment benefits and opportunities in the plan. Seems to be left up to the developers to work out once the plan is largely completed. What will be the nature of the employment opportunities and will employees more likely travel in from outlying areas rather than live in Warrington, which defeats the purpose of it. I compare with the large scale distribution hubs at the Hale junction of the M56 and the one at the Ikea junction of the M56. Both don't serve the local area and largely employ people from Merseyside and Greater Manchester.

I have serious concerns as to the impact on air quality and removal of habitat for local wildlife. We should be preserving and protecting our local green spaces when there are much better areas for this kind of development to go ahead.

The plan seems to assume unnecessarily high levels of growth and housing need, seemingly to justify releasing such large areas of the greenbelt. It seems a tactical approach that should be scaled back to me.

Lastly, given the current weight of opinion behind "green projects" and reducing our impact on climate change, I cannot see enough is being done to support this narrative within this proposal. The over-riding priority seems to be entirely economic based and with no thought for the future sustainability of the area. This would be a perfect opportunity to put forward an very green project that shows the councils forward thinking.

In summary, I oppose the plans in their current format and wish the plan to be reviewed and reworked.

Kind regards

Zach Hardman