From:
To:
Local Plan

Subject: Local plan objection

Date: 14 November 2021 20:23:12

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to the revised Local Plan, in particular the proposals for South Warrington, for the following key reasons:

- 1) The development will destroy a large amount of green belt land, irreversibly changing the character of the area, and negatively affecting the environment and the quality of life of people who currently live in the area. I believe all brownfield sites in the Warrington area should be used before considering releasing any green belt land for development.
- 2) The proposed number of homes to be built in the area lacks robust justification and would place an unsustainable burden on local infrastructure, including health services and schools.
- 3) The plan fails to incorporate the level of improvement in transport infrastructure that would be required to accommodate the proposed number of additional homes in the South Warrington area. Most acutely, the local plan fails to include any real proposal for how to address the key challenge with the road infrastructure in South Warrington namely how to accommodate an inevitable increase in road traffic over the few existing ship canal and Bridgewater canal crossing. Clearly, for the plan to be a success, the new residents of South Warrington *must* be able to easily travel into the centre of Warrington in order to support local businesses and access local services. Given the existing canal crossings are already overburdened (most notably through Stockton Heath and Latchford which are already regularly congested with long queues of stationary traffic through these villages) it is unacceptable to consider building several thousand extra homes in the area without a robust plan for road transport improvement. Failure to develop such a plan will lead to significant congestion and an increase in air pollution, potentially harming the health of local residents, in particular children.

In summary, I believe the plan will have a significant, unjustified detrimental affect on the South Warrington area and do not consider it to be sound or fit for purpose.

Kind regards, Katherine Birch

