

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Karol French [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 November 2021 21:46  
**To:** Local Plan  
**Subject:** Local Plan consultation

I am responding to the latest Warrington Local Plan Consultation and wish to submit my rejection of it on the following grounds:

\* This plan is not sound

\* There is no sound justification for the release of Green Belt land for development.

The ecological and environmental impact of this loss of nearly 1000 acres of green belt has not been properly assessed, especially in light of climate change and the associated need to protect our green and natural spaces for wildlife and threatened biodiversity. Nature has been under threat in our country, at our peril and should be a major priority in any future planning decisions. Once the green belt is released, it is irreversible and this precious green space lost forever.

The development of brownfield sites in the town should be fully utilised before any targeting of green belt should even be considered.

\* The implications for the harm to resulting air quality and ecology cannot be justified.

Significant increases in levels of traffic through and around South Warrington would be harmful to air quality and negatively impact the health of local residents. This is not acceptable and steps should be being taken to reduce traffic in South Warrington rather than increase it through mass housing development, in line with climate change aspirations.

\* There is no justification for the predicted growth fuelling the Plan. The growth prediction is unrealistic and seems to be based on a hope that mass housing development will bring wished for growth with it - not sound planning.

\* This Local Plan does nothing to recognise, value and protect the integrity and character of our local villages and parishes within a beautiful landscape. It will destroy what makes South Warrington a desirable place to live and result in an unpleasant, unhealthy, nondescript urban sprawl.

\* There is no justification for the volume of housing and mass of employment land earmarked in the plan. The plan does not definitively identify the exceptional circumstances required for release of green belt land for development and would be sacrificed for an over- ambitious and greedy Plan. Growth in the Plan seems to be fuelled by new housing creating wishful economic growth, rather than the other way round.

\* There is no clarity in the Plan as to how this should all be delivered as a joined up plan or how the already inadequate transport infrastructure of South Warrington will be able to function with the inevitable resulting increase levels of traffic, which is also at odds with the UK's climate change aspirations. Each new home could potentially mean at least 2 more cars on our roads and much of our traffic flow is dependent on 3 Victorian swing bridges over the Bridgewater Canal.

\* New housing developments are required to include 30% affordable housing, which need to be near to appropriate facilities and places of employment. This will not be met by the Local Plan and will require new residents to drive to work etc and further increase unsustainable levels of traffic and pollution.

Please consider the above points in relation to the Local Plan, the character and distinctive nature of South Warrington is at stake and this impacts on the rest of Warrington too.

Kind regards  
Karol French