

From: emma walton [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 November 2021 12:38
To: Local Plan
Subject: Local Plan Comments

I wish to object to the current Local Plan for the following reasons:

- i) Building a minimum of 4,200 on parts green belt land will be detrimental to the Warrington area.
- ii) Green belt land isn't unused land. It is vitally important as agricultural land, a habitat for wildlife, a place for outdoor leisure activities and it improves air quality. It is particularly important for the residents of Warrington, an urban area, to have access to open space and all the benefits that that brings. Building on green belt land will completely change the character of many villages around Warrington. Villages such as Grappenhall, Appleton and Stretton will be lost in one large urban area. Similarly, building on green belt land around Lymm will mean Lymm, Thelwall and Oughtrington will become one large urban area. One of the purposes of green belt is to prevent neighbouring settlements from merging into each other
- iii) Green belt release in outlying settlements can't be accommodated by the existing infrastructure. People will live in the new housing developments but will rely on cars to travel to work in Warrington or further afield in Liverpool and Manchester. This will only lead to more congestion and poorer air quality and with the current climate crisis don't know how this can be considered a viable option. It would be more sensible to develop Warrington town centre and although this is a Warrington Council policy objective there seems little detail as to how this will be achieved.
- iv) Paragraph 83 of The National Planning Policy Framework indicates that established green belt boundaries should only be altered in "exceptional circumstances". What are the exceptional circumstances around Warrington?

Finally, I think the consultation process has been inadequate and poorly communicated. There was an exhibition at the Halliwell Jones stadium but not in local communities that are going to be severely affected by these plans.

Regards
Emma Walton