From: n.dewsnip

Sent: 15 November 2021 13:47

To: Local Plan
Subject: OBJECTION

Good morning,

I would like to place on record my objections to the proposed local plan for Warrington, and in particular plans for the o called South East Urban Extension, which directly affects the area between the Bridgewater canal and the M 56 Motorway.

Is the impact and destruction of the green belt justified?

No it is not. Where are alternate plans to develop Brownfield sites, such as Fiddlers Ferry and why is the town centre not being re generated? With the availability of Brown field sites, there is no justification for release of Green Belt. Attention needs to be focussed on developing land already available in and around the town.

This country, like the rest of the world is in the middle of a climate crisis. the release of green belt will only create areas of population dependent on cars, which will of course only exacerbate the already serious problems regarding pollution and traffic congestion which this part of Warrington already experiences on a daily basis. There is no provision made within the plan for improved forms of transport other than the use of cars. The plan fails to address the road system in this part of Warrington. I refer specifically to the bottlenecks created in Stockton Heath in particular. It does not appear that new infrastructures will be built ahead of such major changes.

The destruction of the entire character, of villages such as Stretton, Appleton Thorn in effect losing their individual characteristics can surely not be justified, when areas such as Fiddlers Ferry could be used to re create new communities. Indeed the Council is contradicting its objective to preserve the character of the villages that surround the town.

The effect on the general well being of much of the population will be far reaching. It is truly heart breaking to walk the countryside around Appleton, Appleton Thorn, Grappenhall Heys and realise the extent of the destruction that this plan will cause. In addition to this, the destruction of green fields, woodland and hedgerows will also have a profound effect upon wild life. Birds such as Buzzards, Hawks, Heron, Kingfisher, Swallows, Yellow Hammer(a protected species) are likely to decline significantly and eventually disappear from the area. Add to this other mammals such as Badgers, Hares, Fox,and we have what can only be describes as an environmental disaster at a time when our climate is already facing an emergency.

The plan potentially creates a minimum of 4200 homes, approximately 850 for rent. However, the lack of facilities, schools, medical centres, leisure centres etc, public transport, and most importantly the lack of traffic improvements will only result in people becoming more and more dependent on cars, and those who do not own cars, will be in effect isolated in out lying areas of the town without facilities to support their needs. As a former School Governor, I am particularly alarmed at the lack of provision for increasing the number of school places. This is already a problem, since at present most of the primary schools in the area are one form entry, with no immediate plans to change.

In conclusion, this plan is not sound, especially given Michael Gove's comments regarding the protection of the Greenbelt. Warrington does need new homes of varying sizes, but this area of Warrington, having already experienced a large amount of new buildings is not the place to build them. I would urge you to consider developing brownfield sites before using Green Belt. Please consider the opinions of the residents of South Warrington. we are fighting not just for ourselves but for pour children and grandchildren.

Jayne Dewsnip