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From: Myra Fye [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 November 2021 16:55
To: Local Plan
Subject: Draft local plan representation

Dear Planners,

I was heartened to see that the nature reserve at Moore and the fields at Walton have been removed from planned development. However, I believe the plan for South Warrington as a whole is unsound because green belt land is still being used on a large scale, which will mean the character of the area changes, precious agricultural and 'green' space is lost forever, the villages are merged into one mass, and do indeed become part of the urban scene. Stockton Heath, as a local centre is already strained, and no mention is made in the plan about the effects on air quality with increased traffic on the roads. The aspiration for green travel, with public transport connecting outlying areas to the town centre, walking and cycle routes, is laudable, but will it happen? Bus timetables and routes in Warrington South have been shrinking steadily over the years, and until a frequent and reliable service is established commuters will simply use their cars.

I note with dismay a brief reference to a crossing over the Bridgewater Canal. Surely not a resurrected plan for a high level bridge, crossing both the Bridgewater and Ship canals, ending up on Station Road?

In light of the pandemic, and what we now understand about the beneficial effect of natural open spaces on peoples' wellbeing the local plan should be retaining and creating green spaces. The footpaths through tree belts and round fields on the parts of Grappenhall Heys being developed at the moment, were so well walked they became impassable in places.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Warrington could plan for development on an organic human scale in its semi-rural areas, with fields and 'village greens' used to retain the heritage and character of an area, and allow for views? It could create small green parks in the town, plant trees along its streets and the river for town residents, and plant woods and encourage agriculture and food production, for the sake of the planet. Warrington, a Green Town would be a wonderful title have.

Please protect what remains of the green belt, as it is now, and use brownfield sites for development first.

Yours sincerely,

Myra Fye, Stockton Heath resident