

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 November 2024 12:11
To: Local Plan
Subject: Wirral Local Plan – Consultation on Main Modifications

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To the Wirral Local Plan Examination Planning Inspectors:

Dear Sirs,

The following Statements apply to each 'Modification' to which I respond below:

I have read and agree to the 'Consultation Data Protection Notice'.

I have followed the stages of development and support the Wirral Local Plan and wish it to be adopted asap (as it is long-overdue and vital for the future of Wirral) and is 'Sound'.

I continue to support the approach and work of The Heswall Society and the Wirral Green Space Alliance (WGSA) and confirm the Heswall Society & WGSA speak for me in their Responses, but I wish the Responses I give below to be considered, recorded and counted as distinct responses in their own right.

PART A
PERSONAL DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

I understand that my name and my response will be published, that my full name and details will be passed to the Planning Inspectors, and that I have read and understood the Council's privacy notice.

PART B

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Regarding MM1 (Delivering Growth through sustainable low carbon regeneration):

Legally Compliant – Yes

Sound - Yes

I:

- Fully support the regeneration led Local Plan and use of brownfield only land to cover Wirral’s housing needs with no release of Green Belt.
- very much support the confirmation that “exceptional circumstances to justify alterations to the Green Belt boundaries set out in national planning policy do not exist in Wirral”.

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Regarding MM3 (Housing Need); also MM5 new Para D; MM65 re Appendix 4, and MM6:

Legally Compliant – Yes

Sound - Yes

I:

- support the Local Plan with the Total Supply figure of 11,814 net additional dwellings over the Plan Period (up to 2040) as it more than adequately caters for Wirral’s real ‘Housing Need’.
- I/We also support the recognition that the figure is “a reflection of levels that are currently demonstrably deliverable or developable” with the expectation that further sources of Supply will become available over time and as ‘Regeneration’ improves Market Confidence.

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Regarding MM40 (Policy WP8 Policy for the Rural Area – Agricultural Land):

Legally Compliant – Yes

Sound - Yes

I

- consider that modification of the text has gone too far, resulting in the watering down of prescriptive protection of 'Best & Most Versatile' (B&MV) Green Belt Agricultural Land and also there is no mention of the Council Policy (unanimously voted through) NOT to release ANY 'productive agricultural land' for development, thereby maintaining or enhancing the Rural Economy and 'food security' which is increasingly vital in an uncertain world of conflict, international competition, depleted Nature, and Climate Change.
- New Para A: the sentence, "areas of poorer quality land should be preferred" would be better to read, "areas of poorer quality land must be prioritised and instances of non-use justified."

Kind Regards

Dr Lesley Walker