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Development Policy Manager,
Development Services,
Warwick District Council,
Riverside House,
Milverton Hill,
Leamington Spa,
CV32 5QH



July 15th. 2013

Dear Sir,

Revised (June 2013) Local Plan Consultation

Having visited one of your local exhibitions, attended a presentation, and studied the documents I have some comments.

Firstly I believe that a significant number of new houses is, inevitably, going to change the character of the area. However I accept that this is a requirement and is indeed a barometer of the economic prospects for the area. It is therefore vitally important to be sure that your projections (which I personally have no reason to doubt) are soundly based on fact and reasonable judgement so that you can give a robust response to any objections.

It seems to me that the proposed sites for the new houses are conveniently placed for such things as road and rail communications, retail parks and supermarkets and industrial estates. I understand that transport modelling has also been carried out and confirms the suitability of the proposals.

Furthermore towns to the south of Leamington are well distanced. I do however have a concern that the proposed developments are creeping towards Bishop's Tachbrook and so it is vital that remaining green belt / open countryside is preserved.

My main concern relates to increase in traffic congestion, particularly through Leamington and Warwick and no doubt careful consideration will be given to this issue.

It is of course vitally important that roads and infrastructures are in place in good time.

May I also suggest that serious consideration be given to good and frequent bus services looping around the residential areas, industrial estates, and retail areas. One service could perhaps terminate at Leamington railway station. Another service could perhaps go via the centre of Warwick to Warwick Parkway station.

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| WDC PLANNING |
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As an associated matter I understand that there is a possibility that land within our local area may be sought to meet the housing needs of Coventry. I cannot comment constructively without knowing the specifics but am concerned about this for two reasons. Firstly I would have thought that there would be nearer suitable sites, maybe including "brown field" ones. Secondly the proposed new housing to serve local needs will, in my opinion, stretch the infrastructure to the limit.

Yours faithfully

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C.M.Bowden