



Planning Policy Team
St.Helens Council
Town Hall
St.Helens

28th January 2017

Dear Sirs,

Local Plan Preferred Options Report – Comments

The following comments are made in response to consultation on the St.Helens Local Plan Preferred Option Report on behalf of Rainhill Parish Council.

The Parish Council deplores this Government's changed policy that requires all local councils to assign *even more* land for development into a 15 year local plan. This runs counter to the concept of localism. We also note that a failure by St Helens Council to introduce sufficient development land into the plan is very likely to result in indiscriminate development on green land across Rainhill.

The Parish Council wishes to place on record that it shares residents' concerns that the proposal would:

- i. Lead to additional traffic congestion on roads that are already nearing their safe capacity, a problem that will be intensified should the High School expand;
- ii. Have a detrimental effect on highway safety, for vehicles and pedestrians alike;
- iii. Increase the pressure on schools and nurseries, which are already over-subscribed;
- iv. Increase the pressure on social infrastructure e.g. Doctor's surgeries, dentists;
- v. Exacerbate existing health problems for residents, due to increase vehicle pollution; and
- vi. Be detrimental to residential amenity, due to the loss of Green Belt.

The Parish Council believes that the proposed Halsnead Village development in Knowsley will add pressure to existing infrastructure and services, once it starts to be developed, and we are on record as expressing our concerns on several occasions and asking St Helens Council to prepare for the consequences of Knowsley Borough's action.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gillian Pinder'.

Gillian Pinder
Clerk to Rainhill Parish Council



Awarded for excellence