

<b>Family Name</b>	Kelly
<b>Given Name</b>	Graham
<b>Person ID</b>	1286330
<b>Title</b>	Stakeholder Submission
<b>Type</b>	Web
<b>Family Name</b>	Kelly
<b>Given Name</b>	Graham
<b>Person ID</b>	1286330
<b>Title</b>	JPA 6: West of Wingates / M61 Junction 6
<b>Type</b>	Web
<b>Soundness - Positively prepared?</b>	Unsound
<b>Soundness - Justified?</b>	Unsound
<b>Soundness - Consistent with national policy?</b>	Unsound
<b>Soundness - Effective?</b>	Unsound
<b>Compliance - Legally compliant?</b>	No
<b>Compliance - In accordance with the Duty to Cooperate?</b>	No
<b>Redacted reasons - Please give us details of why you consider the consultation point not to be legally compliant, is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible.</b>	<p>Positively prepared? - The plan has not been positively prepared as it not appropriate for this locality. Bolton already has a large industrial facility at Logistics North. This was constructed on a Brownfield site which has motorway access right on its exit. This proposed development is on established Greenbelt and has no immediate access to the motorway network. The proposal of a new link road is not a solution to traffic congestion, it merely shifts the problem further along the line. More importantly it would greatly increase carbon emissions.</p> <p>Saying the development achieves sustainable development by removal of Greenbelt is completely contradictory.</p> <p>In answer to the question does this development comply with "providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs", the answer again is no. Westhoughton already has a large industrial site at Wingates on the A6 and, as mentioned above, has a huge industrial complex at Junction 4 of the M61, which boasts it is "The North West's largest live commercial development". To construct an even larger development on greenbelt land is both criminal and would result in the historic town of Westhoughton becoming an area of increased pollution and traffic congestion.</p> <p>Justified? - I would purport that it is not justified. Studies have shown that Bolton, as a conurbation, has large areas of Brownfield sites which are ideally suited to industrial development. The argument that they are not appropriate with this plan, which requires huge sheds and transport depots has nothing to do what the area wants. It's simply all about lining the pockets of the developers, who can construct these monstrosities on virgin Greenbelt land much cheaper than on Brownfield.</p> <p>Consistent with national policy? - Absolutely not consistent. The proposals contribute major damage to the environment by the removal of greenbelt</p>

land. This area over the past 18 months has seen a major surge in usage due to the impact of Covid. It has always proved extremely beneficial to the residents of Westhoughton and the surrounds both in means of physical exercise and in mental well-being. This should remain in order to provide quality of life and a green open space for all current and future generations to enjoy. The elevations in polluting carbon emissions from construction and subsequently increased traffic, both from workers and distribution vehicles is completely at odds with the UK's and Global targets. The plan should be refused on these grounds alone.

This is an area of natural beauty and any development is in total contradiction to the governments NPPF document. I am certain that you are aware of these guidelines, but will repeat them, so there is no ambiguity in their meaning..

"The Green Belt is a designation for land around certain towns, cities and large built-up areas, which aims to keep the land PERMANENTLY or largely undeveloped. The purposes of the green belt are to:

- check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas
- prevent neighbouring towns from merging
- safeguard the countryside from encroachment
- preserve the setting and special character of historic towns
- assist urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

Green Belt is identified in the local authority's development plan (usually its Local Plan). The relevant policy guidance on designated green belts can be found in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) NPPF chapter 9 Protecting Green Belts

Green Belts are intended to be of a PERMANENT nature, and there is a strong presumption against development which is considered "inappropriate" within them. Generally development which harms the open character of the green belt or conflicts with the purposes for including land within it is considered inappropriate. Details of development which is considered inappropriate is available in the NPPF and your Local Planning Authority's Local Plan.

The NPPF makes it clear that, once established, Green Belt boundaries should only be altered in EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, through the preparation or review of the Local Plan".

The local plan, planning policy and obligation to the residents of Westhoughton is to protect the Greenbelt. In no way shape or form does this application fall into the category of an exceptional circumstance and should therefore be rejected on this point solely. The whole purpose of having areas of Greenbelt, in the first place, is to prevent developments such as this.

Legally compliant? - As a lay person it is totally unfeasible to be asked to answer this question. However I would suggest that all my above comments lead me to the conclusion that it is not legally compliant. The environmental impact of this development means removal of valuable agricultural land, forever. In these times our new future should be for more self-reliance on our own food supplies, any such loss can only have a negative impact.

As important is the loss of habitat to precious wildlife. I live within the proposed development and regularly spot wild deer roaming the fields. The open nature of the area is particularly attractive to Starlings and there are large flocks seen throughout the year. Plus I have seen the endangered Willow Tit on my garden feeder. This bird is quite rare and as a species is in decline. The area should be kept as greenbelt to allow our wildlife to prosper.

Places for Everyone Representation 2021

	<p>Our open spaces are a precious, valuable resource and should be protected for this and future generations to enjoy.</p>
<p><b>Redacted modification - Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make this section of the plan legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified above.</b></p>	<p>Please remove this proposal from the Places For Everyone scheme. It benefits few and creates more problems for the environment and residents of Westhoughton.</p>