



Sustainable Exercise Partnership

“Developing a healthier you and healthier environment”

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Statement for Hearing Newcastle-under-Lyme Local Plan Examination

Re. Matter 9 Employment Policies and Allocation

Site Allocation Policy AB2 “Land at Junction 16 of the M6” is wholly in the wrong location. It would make finding and maintaining employment for the many people in Newcastle-under-Lyme much more difficult. Commuting to this “employment site” would be much costly, both on the employees’ income as well as their health.

The amelioration through “Subject to point 13. measures to support travel to / from the development, particularly by sustainable modes, include cycling links into the development, bus routes and demand responsive travel schemes” is not going to work, because it’s too far away from where future employees or future customers (of the future distribution businesses such as Amazon) live. The reality would be that employees living in e.g. Silverdale will be forced to travel by car and travel through Alsager Bank and Audley to get to this site. Amazon vans would travel a lot further to make the deliveries to their customers. The sites in Chesterton, Chatterley Valley and brownfield area in Stoke-on-Trent would be much better locations to increase good employment prospects, reduce car travel and facilitate active travel, to improve people’s health.

There is a great need for locally produced green energy, and the jobs this would create. Site Allocation for housing in Policy TB19 “Land South of Newcastle Golf Club, Thistleberry” taking away Green Belt land currently used for food production, would increase the environmental strain such as flooding risks and increase in CO2 emissions and air pollution.

This site is adjacent to the small wind power and solar energy park at Keele University. It would be a lot better to make this an energy and employment site for Renewable Energy combined with agriculture, or sheep grazing.

This Draft Local Plan has not fully considered this conurbation of Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-under-Lyme. This is a proposal of an Urban Sprawl, which is damaging to the environment and wholly un-necessary when this conurbation has enough existing and potential employment and housing sites on brownfields area.

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