

Development Policy Manager,
Warwick District Council,
Riverside House
Milverton Hill,
Leamington Spa.



6283

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to object to the proposed development in Old Milverton and Blackdown contained in Warwick District Council's Preferred Options for the Local Plan.

This land has great recreational value to the local community. It is enjoyed by many runners, riders, walkers and cyclists. It is also prime food producing agricultural land which once destroyed can never be replaced.

The National Planning Policy Framework states that the Government attaches great importance to Greenbelts and that the fundamental aim of Greenbelt is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.

The Greenbelt in Old Milverton and Blackdown fulfils the 5 purposes of Greenbelt set out in the NPPF ———

1. Prevents the unrestricted sprawl of Leamington to the North
2. Prevents the merging of Leamington and Kenilworth.
3. Helps safeguard the countryside from encroachment.
4. Helps preserve the setting and special character of Leamington (a historic town)
5. Helps urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

There are other sites which can be developed that are not in the Greenbelt.

These sites, which are mainly to the south of Leamington, were included in Warwick District Council's previous plan (the 2009 Core Strategy).

Employment opportunities and infrastructure already exists here, and this land should be used in preference to the Greenbelt.

The NPPF states that Greenbelt boundaries should only be altered in exceptional circumstances. As there are

alternative sites, there are no exceptional circumstances, which outweigh the harm caused by altering the Greenbelt boundaries in Old Milverton and Blackdown and allowing development on this land.

Please reconsiders your Preferred Options.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]