

News Release



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Release Sent

David Brown letter on Local Plan for Alsager

Cabinet Office
Westfields
Middlewich Road
SANDBACH
Cheshire
CW11 1HZ
Tel: 01270 686014
david.browncouncillor@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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OUR REF:

YOUR REF:

Dear Editor,

RE: Alsager

Cheshire East has been in constant dialogue with its residents over the past two years and it's clear that across the Borough people are against development for development's sake.

Accordingly, what we have endeavoured to do is prepare a Development Strategy which offers a holistic view for the planning of the area whilst taking on board many residents thoughts and comments.

This is a consultation document which delivers our much vaunted five year supply and at last offers a shield against unwanted, unplanned and unsustainable development.

For Alsager, we want to make the best use of brownfield sites so that we can protect the countryside around the town. We must plan for new development, and in Alsager we believe that we can meet this need for new development at the MMU, Twyfords and Radway Green sites so that the development of greenfield sites is not necessary.

At Twyfords, around 450 new homes are proposed along with the retention of the existing offices. 400 new homes are envisaged at MMU, along with a new sports and leisure hub for the whole community. It is also important to retain local jobs, which is why 10 hectares of surplus brownfield land at Radway Green has been identified to provide for business and industry. All of these developments will include better pedestrian and cycle links to the town centre and they will also make financial contributions to improvements to the town centre street scene.

Finally a key purpose of the Development strategy is to identify a five year supply of housing land so we can meet our housing obligations - and we will be doing the necessary technical work over the next few weeks to provide a robust case to underpin future decision making.

This strategy will be published for consultation early in the new year. We feel we have listened already to many people's views - but we still want to learn and understand more and obtain different perspectives on these issues. Where there are difficult decisions to be made I will be meeting residents and others personally to fully understand the concerns. Overall I believe this to be a plan which keeps the best of what we all cherish about our towns and villages whilst also providing for a successful and prosperous future for us all.

I therefore urge you to let us know your views when the consultation starts in mid January.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor David Brown
Deputy Leader of the Council
Portfolio Holder for Strategic Communities