

Page: Client or Agent details (Consultations)

- First name Garry
- Last name Wilson
- Your address [REDACTED]
- Telephone number [REDACTED]
- Email address [REDACTED]
- Preferred contact method Email
- Is an agent representing you No

Page: Local Plan Legal Compliance

- Do you consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant Yes

Page: Local plan Soundness

- Do you consider the Local Plan to be sound No
- Why do you believe the Local Plan is unsound C) It is not effective
- Why do you feel that the Local Plan is unsound First the questions above are leading! I do not believe it to be effective as it uses out of date data where there has been significant, even paradigm, shifts in the fabric of Pendle.
- What changes do you consider necessary, in order to make the Local Plan sound Update the data before using it to model outcomes
- Have you raised this matter(s) at an earlier stage in the preparation of the Local Plan No
- If no, please explain Did not have the ability so to do.

Page: Local plan additional comments

- Please provide any additional comments in support of your representation Response to the Local Plan Consultation Comments are shown with the Local Plan page and reference: Page 20 –2.20 The borough is no longer an important centre for manufacturing. Rolls Royce agreed only to keep manufacturing at Barnoldswick for 10 years. There is only some certainty until 2031. Can Pendle really base its plans on a manufacturer who has clearly stated that it may not be in Barnoldswick in 6 years time? Page 20 –2.21 The fact that the best paid (highly skilled) jobs go to people living outside of Pendle is testament to a number of important factors which seem to have been ignored. First, the standard of educational attainment in Pendle is well below the national average and has remained so for decades –always improving, but never achieving. This gives rise to an unskilled workforce with low salary levels, unable to move outside of their dwelling areas. This change to a highly paid workforce can only be achieved with cultural changes and an uplift of educational attainment. The excellent achievements claimed by Nelson & Colne College, often used to bolster Pendle's self worth, are only maintained by rigorously cutting non-achievers. This leaves those with poor educational attainment exactly where they were! Secondly, for those who break away to university and in common with the national trends, graduates remain in their university city initially when possible. They then relocate to areas offering suitable employment positions not necessarily in their home towns. I

can not identify any local industry able to offer a significant number of suitable graduate positions. Lastly, commuting into Pendle is easy. Why would any successful career move be associated with living in Pendle with its reputation for nationally low value housing? The national housing valuations used in Pendle are very significant to buyers who interpret trends, and require their house purchase to be a good investment. Page 33 –Spatial Strategy There appears to be an overkill of service centres in the area from Colne to the the Pendle boundary at Thornton-in-Craven. In linear fashion the population centres flow Colne (Town) –Foulridge (RSC) –Kelbrook & Sough (RSC) –Earby (Town/Service Centre) along the A56. If the intention is to develop an entire ribbon conurbation then this plan works. However, if the desire is to maintain historic landscapes; promote localism through local plans; make use of good housing stock to promote worthwhile housing investments (i.e. attract people to live there), and keep each area distinctive, then increasing the proximity of each by development (commercial or otherwise) outside of the settlement area defeats the objective on every test. Page 219 –7.6 & 7.7 The Pennine Lancashire Growth and Prosperity Plan 2016-2032 and The Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy (2013) were both prepared and published pre-Covid, pre-census and before Pendle's industry was in decline. With Boundary Outlets being the biggest employer in Pendle, it is patently obvious that an urgent review is required of the above reports. Reliance upon opinions and data which is over ten years old, must be foolhardy. Page 220 –General In the year ending December 2023, the unemployment rate in Pendle was 8.1%, which is an increase from 4.5% in the year ending December 2022. Pendle's Claimant Count has increased by the largest percentage in the UK over the last year, rising by 46.0%. The above information suggests that the unemployment rates are such that there should be increased land and incentives created for business development. However there are other factors which counter that argument. First, this plan has already stated that there is sufficient retail floorspace available. Secondly, the industrial sites such as those in Earby, Kelbrook & Sough have vacant premises which have existed for many years, which in turn means that these locations are not attractive to businesses, local or national. Lastly, the rise of claimants by 46% is not necessarily indicative of genuine unemployment. It is equally indicative of the ease of claiming unemployment benefit and lack of monitoring.

- Do you wish to participate at the hearing sessions No
- How did you find out about this consultation Email