From: Save Whalley Village Action Group [mailto:save.whalley.village@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Save Whalley Village
Sent: 02 June 2014 20:03
To: planning
Subject: Core Strategy consultation- SWV response

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please find attached the Save Whalley Village response to the current Core Strategy consultation.

Best regards,

Mike Harper (on behalf of SWVAG)
Core Strategy consultation

Dear Colin,

We note that the residual number of houses against the planned allocation for Whalley to 2028 is -68. This indicates that, even measured against the over-inflated housing targets imposed upon the council, Whalley will provide more than its share of housing in the borough over the next 15 years. We hope it will provide the means for RVBC to defend against continuing development pressure.

We are pleased to see that finally, if belatedly, the housing totals are no longer referred to as minimum targets. The notion that 520 houses for Whalley should somehow be viewed as a minimum appeared to us as both nonsensical and an open goal for developers.

Aside from this, we find nothing beneficial in the changes since the last consultation. Our previous objections as outlined most recently in our submission to the Examination in Public have not been addressed, and the increase to a total of 5600 houses has exacerbated matters. However, as these objections are ignored we see no point in repeating them here.

More generally reading the revised Core Strategy it appears to give the Council’s imprimatur on the recent development land-grab. No coherent or sustainable plan could decree 710 houses in Barrow and 588 in Whalley, whilst Langho gets 18 and Read & Simonstone gets 42. We worry that the reality of this distribution will undermine the objectives of the plan itself: in other words developers will argue that if 710 houses in Barrow is sustainable, then why not 500 in Langho, or 1000 in Whalley? We would like to see such a possibility forestalled by including some statement that the objectives of the plan have been partially compromised during its preparation by Inspectorate decisions, and that adherence to the plan from now on is required.

Best regards,

Mike Harper
(on behalf of Save Whalley Village Action Group)