

From: Donna Gilmartin [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 April 2019 08:55
To: wminterchange@pins.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: West Midlands Interchange TR050005

Dear Mr Singleton

I am a founding member of Stop the West Midlands Interchange community group. This is my personal submission to the 5 April deadline 2 for comments regarding the development.

I would be grateful if you did not fully disclose my submission for public viewing as it contains potentially sensitive information regarding my work.

My family are residents of Croft Lane Gailey, 5 generations of my family have lived in Croft Lane. I have other family members who still live here that will also be affected. Croft Lane would be completely surrounded by this development, on 3 sides by warehouses and a new road, and on the 4th side by the greatly increased traffic on the A5.

I am an experienced foster carer, I care for vulnerable and special needs children from local towns and inner city. Most of these children have suffered significant harm and abuse and have never had access to even a garden. Our home and the surrounding environment is an oasis of tranquility and calm. The natural environment and clear fresh air all around us goes a long way towards the healing process of these children. It provides access to many outdoor leisure activities, animals and birds, water sports and to simply play in our garden.

We often walk along the canal tow path and public footpaths and the woodland. The children are fascinated by the opportunities to grow and learn and have a healthy lifestyle. We teach all our children to respect the landscape and ecology, we often do litter picks. We have daily visits from Kingfishers along the canal, Herons from the reservoir and 2 types of Woodpecker amongst many others, these birds and many other animals would lose habitat and be frightened away by all the noise and traffic.

My son [REDACTED] and has been hospitalised several times, the amount of pollution we will be exposed to would greatly be increased by this development. It would be almost impossible to continue to live here should this development be given consent.

The applicant also want to purchase my late grandmothers house and land (C [REDACTED] [REDACTED]) and my fathers gas business [REDACTED] Although I have an interest in my late grandmothers estate, I have only recently been involved in any meetings with the applicant. The applicant has been in talks with my family for around 2 years but have not made any significant attempts to relocate or even find an alternative site for the family business.

I feel they intend to extinguish the business that has been in our family for several generations by using the compulsory purchase powers they would gain should consent be granted, a far easier and less expensive method. The applicant wishes to demolish the

house and business premises. This business provides employment for my father, brother, son and other local people.

This is Green Belt land and should be held in the highest regard, the applicant does not wish to build the rail link until years after the warehousing goes up. The rail link is the 'strategic' part, what if it never happens? All this Green Belt will be lost to a road freight warehouse development.

Our roads frequently become gridlocked, almost weekly there is an accident or incident on the M6 and traffic is directed to the A5 and A449. We struggle to do the school run and get to appointments when this happens without the added extra traffic this development would generate.

I know that a lot of this information is not relevant when deciding about development consent but it is important to me and my family and the children we care for and to a lot of the residents who live here who will be very affected by what is proposed. It would change lives forever.

Donna Gilmartin



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