



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Mark Hunter
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Mr Andy Burnham
Mayor for Greater Manchester
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Churchgate House
56 Oxford Street
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18th November 2020

Dear Andy,

I write following the adjourned meeting of Stockport Council yesterday evening and your subsequent comments, as reported, regarding the future of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. On behalf of my Group I am pleased to note that you have made the offer of further talks on this crucial issue in an effort to find a way forward.

For the record, can I make it perfectly clear that the Liberal Democrat Group on Stockport Council are prepared to meet with you and your officials at any stage to hear the details of any new proposals that you may wish to make.

It may be helpful to set out our key concerns which we know are shared by many of the people we represent. The points that follow are by no means exhaustive but do indicate our major areas of contention with the GMSF proposals as they currently stand.

1. Protecting Green Belt remains our priority concern. Stockport benefits from relatively large areas of highly valued Green Belt - we want to ensure it is preserved for everyone to enjoy.
2. Public transport and other infrastructure improvements must be guaranteed as an integral part of the overall package - they are not optional extras to be determined at a later stage.
3. Any revised plans must be based on up to date population growth statistics - basing such far reaching plans on ONS figures which are now six years out of date is simply not acceptable.

I hope that this letter is helpful in explaining our position and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Best wishes,

Mark

Cllr Mark Hunter
Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group
Stockport MBC

(As a matter of courtesy, I have copied this letter to the Leader of Stockport Council, the Leader of the Conservative Group and the Leader of the Independent Ratepayers Group as well as the Council's Chief Executive).

Cllr Mark Hunter
Liberal Democrat Member
for Cheadle Hulme South