**SADPD Cledford Hall Transit Site Comments**

**From Fiona Bruce MP**

1. Since a previous planning consent was obtained for a transit site on the Cledford Hall site in 2015, the ANSA depot has been constructed and is operational at Cledford Lane. Not only does this substantially increase traffic but it takes in Cheshire East’s residential waste – a substantial volume of waste. I understand that policy documents advise that transit sites should not be positioned near landfill sites; whilst this is not a landfill site it is a major waste site with, I understand, c. 200,000 tonnes of waste processed annually
2. Similarly, Government funding for the Middlewich Eastern Bypass has been secured since consent was last obtained and Cledford Lane will be a feeder road for it. I understand that there have, as yet, been no traffic surveys to assess the implications of having a transit site on what will be a feeder road to a key, and busy, bypass.
3. There has been no recent consultation with the settled community (one done goes back several years) or the settled traveller community about the proposals for a transit site at Cledford Hall location.
4. The site is considered to close to Wincanton warehouse and lorry park which operates 24 hours a day. I am informed that this site is particularly busy in the early hours of the morning with traffic movement (not helpful if children from the transit site are going to school); and that this industrial site is noisy. I am also advised that it is not recommended that transit sites be placed near industrial sites where noise is an issue.
5. Cledford Lane has no pavements which is a safety concern for the children who could be living at the transit site and travelling to school – and there is, of course, no school near the site so it will be essential for them to travel, and quite possibly on foot, along Cledford Lane to attend school. With potentially 20 pitches meaning that there could be a substantial number of children there are real concerns about their safety.
6. I understand that it will be necessary to construct a sewer at considerable expense – if this site is to be used as a transit site.
7. Residents are asking why, when there are major employment needs in Middlewich and, say as this site has been designated as employment land, it should be used as such and not for residential purposes.
8. With regard to the traveller community I am informed that Middlewich is not on a main traveller route and therefore Cledford Hall site is not a location the travelling community would considerable preferable compared with others in the wider Cheshire area.
9. I was also told of views that this site is “too close to the settled traveller community in Middlewich” more than 60% of which live within 1.3km of this site, some within a five-minute walk – Middlewich does, of course, have a large settled traveller community.