

MIQ response from Sarah Sengul 5116 re Matter 9

From:

Sent: 16 August 2019 15:44

To: Tony Blackburn

Subject: Re: Rossendale Local Plan

Dear Sirs,

Please could the Inspectors have very careful regard to the existing dangerousness of this serious stretch of highway alongside which development is now proposed. I have lived at 1354 Burnley Road Loveclough since 2001. I have repeatedly raised concerns with the Council (RBC and LCC) regarding the safety of this highway. Several years ago, following my representations, the corroding railings outside our row of houses were dismantled and in their place an additional kerb was built and provision made for the parking of residents within broken white lines. The constant danger remains, however, and one takes one life in one's hands when getting into and out of one's vehicle. It is particularly frightening for my children. Traffic calming measures have subsequently been introduced (traffic island further down the road) but to little effect which is proven in the later occurrence of a number of significant road traffic collisions along this particular stretch of highway. Last May my daughter and I watched as our vehicle, which was parked outside our house, was hit by another vehicle heading towards Burnley which we saw fly through the air after it had impacted with ours. I was first outside to the scene and at that time I did not know what I was dashing to. The female driver was lucky to be alive. My vehicle was written off and my next door neighbour's vehicle sustained major damage. The year before, a vehicle again collided with the same neighbour's stationary vehicle in the same place. Her vehicle was written off and damage was sustained by another three vehicles. Luckily for us, the children and I were out at the time, otherwise our vehicle would have been involved too. These are the two RTCs which I have direct involvement with but I know that there have been others. I saw the aftermath of the latest one opposite my house a couple of months ago. In these incidents, had we been seated in our vehicles at the time of the impacts, the consequences would have been quite different. As I mentioned, it is always an anxious time when we are getting into our vehicles, waiting to move off, waiting to park, and getting out of our vehicles. Access to our own houses from our designated parking areas is dangerous enough on this blind bend and the proposal to erect more houses on the farm land opposite would clearly be a recipe for disaster. I hope that a fatality is not going to be the caveat for more effective traffic management to be implemented. I would urge the Inspectors to think again before even considering approving this proposal to develop 5 more houses opposite our row because, frankly, to do so would be reckless, knowing the existing dangers and the obvious exacerbation thereof in the event that more houses are built also requiring access from an already highly dangerous stretch of highway. Public safety must be the paramount concern of the Council.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sarah Sengul.