

URGENT NEWS RELEASE

WE ARE CALLING IN OUR FULL COUNCIL, ALL 66 OF THEM, TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS

Democracy or Dictatorship, that is the question. Where do we live, is it in a Democratic society or a society dictated to by the few? Councillors and MPs are elected by a so called democratic society yet when they get to power they all of a sudden become a dictatorship. We did not elect them to dictate over us but to represent our views and protect our interests which they are currently failing to do.

The residents of Sefton are fighting Sefton Council in every corner, Formby, Maghull, Lydiate, Thornton and more to preserve its green belt. Bootle residents are fighting them to preserve their houses and to stop demolishing them. They have been asked what they are doing in respect of all the empty houses and bringing them back into use but they just side step the question and pour out one excuse after another. This Council is wrecking peoples lives, fragmenting communities and we feel that their motto should be "to divide and conquer". What they should all remember is that we voted them in and we can vote them out.

Maybe the question we should ask is how any person can represent the true views and interests, impartially, of its residents when they have a political bias. As soon as the residents confront them with an issue that conflicts with their own party politics then they become evasive, deaf and do a vanishing act. Is that democracy, we don't think so.

We as residents have had enough. We are calling in all 66 Councillors and forcing them to debate why they do not have a local plan in place and why they are leaving the residents of Sefton unprotected from developers wanting to build on green belt land, dragging their feet, spending vast amounts of tax payers money employing consultants who feed data into a little black box and out the other end comes the answers that the Council want to hear. No justification, no quantification, just that they are right. Who says they are right? Well we don't, we say they need to be accountable to the residents and they will no longer be able to ignore the local people. Why are they continuing to demolish properties and then turn around and say they have to build more? Where is the common sense, nobody has any in our opinion or they would be looking at different options, ones that the residents of Sefton want and that will benefit all communities.

The Petition urges the council, to include its officers, elected members and its Leaders to implement a Local Plan urgently, which protects its residents from the unscrupulous, profit hungry, vultures who are swooping in on our green belt land, without any thought of the communities it would affect or the future of our country and the impact on future generations. They could prevent this if they wanted but they appear not to, why is this? Why are they spending millions on demolishing good homes that can be brought back into use and who people want to live in? Maybe it is because there is more profit in allowing developers to build on green belt. Who benefits from this? Certainly not the residents but of course the developers and the council will benefit a great deal. Could there be a vested interest in this way of thinking?

Sefton Council have refused to answer our questions, ignored our questions, failed to communicate with us, relying on section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act yet have been having meetings and discussions with the Developers for at least 12 months, in fact working in partnership with them, as the Developers say, yet feel that they do not have to

communicate with the residents upon whom these issues will have an impact on and who pay their wages.

The issue of building on green belt will have a huge implication on the rest of the country.

We are being used as the test case for the country. If the developers win here then they will have set a precedent for building on Green Belt which will then have an impact on the rest of the country, as the precedent will have been set and will leave all councils and its residents open to the developers, without restrictions and with nothing they can do about it.

We thought we were dealing with only one developer until 48 hours ago when it has now emerged that there is another developer also wanting to build and encroach on green belt land and now a third developer has come out of the woodwork. Where next, who next, believe us it will be you next unless we stop them now. The domino effect has started, where will it end?