

Hi David

The Inspector has said he would be happy for you to speak when the inquiry resumes on Tuesday, please find the inquiry joining link below;

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 388 794 443 910

Passcode: Ue9YXR

A copy of your email will be added to the appeal file and as is customary, copied to the main parties for their information.

Kind regards

Leanne

Leanne Palmer

Major Casework

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate>

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Email: leanne.palmer@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

From: David Batty <david@davidbatty.com>

Sent: Friday, April 19, 2024 12:57 PM

To: Palmer, Leanne <LEANNE.PALMER@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: New prison at Leyland - Request to speak on Tuesday.

You don't often get email from david@davidbatty.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Leanne,

I have been watching the enquiry for it's previous three days and I wanted to have my say on something that has not been mentioned (that I have heard). But the day ended without asking if anyone else wanted to speak. I wondered if I can speak on Tuesday 23rd when it re-opens to present my views below...

I have lived here since just before Wymott opened in 1978 and have worked in the education department and workshops of both Wymott and Garth over a period of 20 years as well as other local prisons such as Liverpool, Kirkham, and Lancaster Castle.

Car Park

I have concern over the accuracy of the number of parking spaces needed, and of the estimated traffic mentioned, seeing as the prison visitors and their vehicles will be only twenty or thirty metres from our nearest houses. There is an assumption that there will be no overspill or officers not wanting to park their nice car on the same car park as visitors (so parking elsewhere like on our estate).

It's rare for staff members to use public transport and there is limited car sharing as they live in a variety of locations and have different shift patterns or start and end times depending on their role in the prison.

When Wymott opened it had a car park which I assume was planned to be suitable for the number of vehicles, but that car park was later found to be inadequate. The car park was then extended across the road to make it double its original size. Later a second similar sized extension was built on to the extension! The Wymott car park is now around four times the original planned size.

A similar thing happened with Garth next door, we had a smaller car park originally. A large visitors car park was built a few years after the prison opened. Then later, the separate staff car park was extended making it almost double in size. As a staff member it was always a worry as you drove round at both prisons whether you could get a parking space and not be late for work. You tended to then park the vehicle on the road rather than be late.

With both prisons you still see vehicles parked on the road today.

When this prison was proposed, I looked at HMP Berwyn (which is a recent similar build) to see if car parks nowadays were estimated more accurately by the prison service. Berwyn only opened in 2017. I wanted to see if it had adequate parking. I noted that it has also had cars parked on the road and it later had it's car park increase in size

by 50% from its original design and from what was originally built and assumed to be adequate. There was public local opposition to the unsuitability of the original car park.

I can't understand how this proposed prison car park is going to be in any way adequate and not cause parking issues on our estate or on Moss Lane, seeing as two nearby prison parking estimates, and, at HMP Berwyn which was only opened 7 years ago, have been so grossly underestimated.

I looked at the plan of the proposed car park for this new prison which will take over Wymott sports fields. I noticed the limited space available to make it (without knocking buildings down at Wymott). I wondered if the number of parking spaces figure for this new prison was decided not by the number of spaces needed, but by the largest chunk of Wymott that could be used as a car park, without knocking buildings down. This would either mean that the figures given for the new car park were not accurately reporting the required spaces for the new prison in to the future, but were based on the largest chunk of land available to get through planning permission.

David Batty