

Ms Susan Fox.
Delivering Economic Prosperity
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Economic recovery comes from urban regeneration and developing housing from derelict industrial, and other Brownfield sites, irrespective of the viability from the point of view of the developer and *not* from turning over Greenfield sites for housing development with the consequent damage (possibly irreparable) to wildlife habitats and species. Decent town housing, where there would be existing lighting, should be developed to accommodate those who do not wish to live either in villages or in the suburbs, creating safer and vibrant urban communities, returning prosperity to urban areas. Section 2 of the NPPF “Ensuring the vitality of town centres” with 27 paragraphs of recommendations places strong emphasis on town centre first policy for offices and a recognition that “residential development can play an important role in ensuring the vitality of centres”. Moreover, there are existing public transport links by rail (Bamber Bridge, Lostock Hall, Leyland) Leyland) and bus links with the possibility of tram lines being created from dual carriageways, for example from Hutton to Preston, through Penwortham to ease traffic congestion and provide people with alternative ‘green’ methods of transport for travel, other than the car.

Economic regeneration will not happen by building unwanted dwellings through vast swathes of open countryside that may not even sell, as happened in the Republic of Ireland following the collapse of the ‘Celtic Tiger’ economy. Locally, this would be both damaging to the economy and destructive to the countryside.