

Warrington Borough Council  
26-30 Horsemarket St  
Warrington,  
WA1 1XL

7 September 2017

Dear Sirs

**Re: Local Plan Preferred Development Option – Appleton, Stretton, Higher Walton and Grappenhall**

In circumstances where the Online Standard Response Form is nearly impossible for a layman to understand or complete, I am writing to record my thoughts on the proposals submitted for consultation.

The proposed site for the expansion is extremely close to an already problematic M6 junction and to links to surrounding motorways. Any incident on the motorways (of which there have been several in the last month alone) cause chaos, and impact the roads around the proposed development site. I am thinking of Broad Lane in particular, which is a road that I live directly adjacent to. Commuters use this road as a cut through whenever the traffic is bad, and this can severely block the road for current residents during those periods. The addition of several thousand new homes would only serve to exacerbate this problem, and would cause real problems for the local road network.

The roads and bridges around the proposed development sites are narrow, and not in a state to accommodate extra traffic, particularly if you consider that many homes have at least 2 cars, and 8000 new homes are proposed. The bridges in particular have historic interest and it is frightening to think of the damage that might be sustained to them, both by the volume of traffic, and the additional freight vehicles that would follow as a result of this development.

Warrington would lose a substantial chunk of its countryside if these plans were to go ahead (the green belt being one of the reasons why residents choose to live here). Whilst I appreciate the need to satisfy the requirements for new homes, I find it hard to believe that there are no alternatives to destroying the countryside. There is a significant chunk of woodland that would appear to be caught up by this scheme, and it would be sacrilege to destroy something that has stood for hundreds of years (and was captured within a

conservation area for good reason), particularly if there are brownfield sites that could be put to better use. The local wildlife would also be adversely affected. The area has bats, rabbits, hedgehogs and newts to name but a few, and these proposals would destroy their habitat.

I understand that this is only a consultation, and that the council is obliged to put proposals to Government, but surely a council like Warrington has options other than to destroy one of the prettiest parts of its borough. I've always been proud to call Warrington my home, but I'm not feeling too proud at present.

Yours faithfully

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature and name of the sender.