

Good Morning

Warrington Borough Council (WBC) Local Plan Preferred Development Option Regulation 18 Consultation July 2017

I'm writing regarding the WBC Local Plan Preferred Development Option Regulation 18 Consultation July 2017. It is noted that Latchford railway embankment has been in part identified by WBC as having the potential to provide a 'new strategic road/public transport link'.

Having now attended one of the consultation events it is my intention to respond specifically to the threat posed to this section of the Latchford railway embankment and sections of the Trans Pennine Trail. I also note that other sections of the Latchford railway embankment are under threat from housing. As a whole it has already been identified by the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit as a valuable wildlife corridor. It also has excellent potential for a non-motorised user green link into the centre of Warrington with wider connections to the Trans Pennine Trail. It is my belief that it's destruction in the name of growth would be short sighted and a lost opportunity for WBC, current and future residents of Latchford, the wider borough and beyond, not to mention a blight on affected residents.

In addition, I'll be responding to the proposed degrading of our local environment via Green Belt release. In fact on this matter I have recently been in dialogue with both Faisal Rashid MP for South Warrington and the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government.

Since July 23rd I have written a number of times to Latchford East Councillor Hans Mundry for clarification regarding these proposals and whether they are being given serious consideration and if so, what the consequences would be and how he intends to challenge them. I have had no response to date.

Thinking about it, I believe it is scandalous that the matter had not been raised with local residents by local Councillors before the consultation was underway - in effect WBC have tried to bury it in an ill-conceived and short consultation undertaken when many people are away on holiday. The majority of people only found out about the consultation via a flyer provided by a local protest group - disgraceful.

The inclusion in the Local Plan Preferred Development Option of the 'potential new strategic road/public transport link' has now blighted my property. It is unlikely that I will be able to sell anytime in the near future. Even if I could sell it is likely to be well below the asking price before the Local Plan Preferred Development Option became published. In light of this I am

currently liaising with my legal representative on possible actions I can take to minimise my losses.

In view of the seriousness of the matter and seeing as the Consultation is currently well along I would be grateful if somebody could clarify if the 'potential new strategic road/public transport link' is under serious consideration or not?

I look forward to your positive reply at the earliest opportunity as I'm sure do all the residents of Latchford and wider environs.

Kind Regards