

I have made a response to the proposals early in the consultation period but some of the inflammatory nonsense published in the Warrington Guardian and discussions with friends have led to me make this supplementary note

I understand that additional housing in the borough is necessary and that if you don't plan for it you will get no government support to resist errant developers who may try to develop in unsuitable locations. However, there is a key component missing from the proposals and this is, of course, transport and infrastructure generally.

The proposals for south of the Ship Canal are, in effect, a late implementation of the original proposals of the Warrington New Town. The gaping hole is the omission of a new high level crossing of the Ship Canal which was fundamental to the original plans. Since that time, traffic volumes have increased considerably worsening the already poor traffic problems in Stockton Heath and Latchford. None of the proposals south of the canal can be

allowed to proceed unless and until this issue is resolved.

However it is absolutely essential that the southern parts of the town take their fair share of the additional housing. Failure in the south would only increase the pressure on the rest of the borough and create "us and them" issues that would inevitably arise if the south escapes additional development. Also it cannot be assumed that the proposed western link road will provide all that is required in the regard, whichever route is eventually constructed. Some other significant highway improvement will also be required.

I also wish to comment about the proposals as they stand for Croft and Culcheth. Setting aside that this is going to ressurect old battles, the traffic concerns are real and serious here. At times traffic via Croft to and through Winwick to the A49 is very high. There is no capacity for anything more unless and until improvements are made. These should include work around Winwick Church and the A49 junction at the Swan. This doesn't take any account of the deleterious effects of HS2 which will be significant (if it gets built!!)

This area is seriously affected by computer traffic to and from Birchwood Business Park and the new proposals MUST include plans for dealing with this.

As with the south, development should be restricted until infrastructure improvements are at least under way.

Regards



