

Response to WBC PDO – September 2017



1. Publicity and PR

It is clear from the widespread public protests and reactions that most residents of Warrington, including myself, have been unaware of the activities over the past couple of years that have resulted in the formulation of the Preferred Development Option. This was compounded by the manner in which the consultation was launched, with no clear explanation concerning how the PDO was arrived at or what its status was in the context of the wider planning process and in particular the Local Plan.

It is hardly surprising, therefore, that residents gained the impression that radical changes were being foisted on them.

2. Potential Strategic Road/Public Transport Route

This single issue has caused enormous upset, including deep concerns over properties and property values adjoining this route. It may also have resulted in the loss of at least one house sale.

WBC should remove or at least publicly explain this speculative and gratuitous label, which is at best a faint “wish” and in reality is unlikely to happen.

3. Garden City Suburb and Removal of Green Belt Areas

This issue should be comprehensively and publicly reviewed before proceeding any further with the PDO/Local Plan process.

