



Planning Policy Team  
Warrington Borough Council  
Newtown House  
Buttermarket Street  
Warrington WA1 2NH

Dear Sirs,

Re: Local Planned Preferred Option

I am a resident of Warrington and writing to provide my response to your proposed preferred Local Planned Option.

#### 1 Consultation Period

I only learned about the local development plan (LDP) on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 via an “unofficial channel” and went to one of your last two open consultation sessions on 7<sup>th</sup> September. At 6:30pm, the queue for entering the consultation was more than 200 metres long and on my leaving by 7:30pm, the queue was even longer. It was evident that a lot of people wasn’t aware of the LDP until then and had to rush to attend an open session. The publicity given to the residents have not been adequate for people to make an informed view and therefore, another 8-week extension should be given from the original consultation end date.

I admit that I have not fully studied the proposal due to insufficient time allowed in this consultation. I am going to China for a combined business/holiday trip of 2 weeks which was planned and booked in April this year. Therefore I am doing a response now and hoping you will allow sufficient time to me to respond.

#### 2 Becoming a City

A basic foundation for the whole proposal is Warrington wants to become a city. The change will affect the lives of thousands of families and should not have been made without consultation. For a decision of this gravity and nature, a Warrington wide referendum should be called.

For people who wants to live in a city, there are Manchester and Liverpool to choose from and change Warrington into a city by destroying vast areas of green belt land is not a good option.

I believe a lot of Warrington residents do not wish to live in a city and it is not a fair play to impose a city on these residents without a referendum.

Other assumptions for the LDP include projected business and population growths. The proposed growth targets seem to be unrealistic I need to see more evidenced based assessments and justifications.

### **3 Green Belt Release**

Warrington has a lot of brown land that can be used for redevelopment. The proposed release of the green belt land is not compatible with the principle of exhausting the brown belt land first.

The releasing of green belt land between the North and South Warrington is not proportionate and the justification given is not sufficient.

The residents of South Warrington chose the location for its characters. The proposed release will destroy the character of South Warrington hence will undermine their existing standard of family life.

No mitigation measures are given to justify the negative environmental impact and loss of habitats.

### **4 Proposed New Link Road using Transpennine Trail**

It is acknowledged that the existing A50 (Knutsford Road) and the Latchford swing bridge is often congested particularly when M6 viaduct north is congested/blocked. However, the problem of M6 viaduct congestion should be not solved solely by a new M6 bypass through Warrington. More link road through Warrington will attract more traffic from M6 and make traffic issue in Warrington worse. This proposal is unrealistic and not acceptable.

### **5 Warrington Garden City Suburb**

It is not necessary to build a "Garden City Suburb" in order to allow business growth in Warrington. Combined with insufficient justification for the growth targets and the brown belt lands that can be used, I reject the proposal for the Garden City Suburb.

Regards,

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