



06.09.2017.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to respond to the Preferred Development Option Consultation.

Firstly, I agree with many local residents and the Grappenhall and Thelwall Parish Council that the timing of the consultation and the lack of publicity from the Borough Council were most unsatisfactory and detrimental to residents' awareness and understanding of the proposals. Many of the people I have spoken to have agreed that the maps and report are unnecessarily obscure and incomprehensible to the average layman.

Fortunately, I was able to attend the recent consultation event at the Park Royal Hotel, Stretton. As a result of speaking to personnel and studying the maps and watching the video presentation, I have several deep concerns about the proposals.

I have grave misgivings about the proposed loss of green belt land in South East Warrington. The pleasant character of the area in which I live will be completely changed, and the important benefits to residents and visitors of our semi-rural open spaces will be greatly impaired. The loss of habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna must also be taken into consideration and avoided as much as possible.

Another subject of concern is the detrimental effect that so much new housing and employment would have on the local road systems. The area is already subject to congestion and long travel delays, and suffers even more severe

problems when drivers have to leave the local motorways to avoid queues and closures. The proposed developments seem to be so extensive that even with the proposed new roads, there will surely be a worsening of the area's road problems. In addition, the likelihood of drivers using cross-town routes to avoid the new tolls on the Runcorn-Widnes bridges will further contribute to unacceptable congestion.

Having worked in education for more than 40 years, I find it almost impossible to believe that, in the current climate, the proposed number of new schools will ever materialise or that adequate funding will be forthcoming. It would seem that the resulting stresses and strains on existing local schools would be extreme.

The proposal to use the Trans-Pennine Trail as the High Level Strategic Road through Latchford/Grappenhall and Thelwall is not acceptable in my opinion. The trail is a valuable local leisure facility and should not be subject to this proposal. The impact on local residents, not to mention the loss of natural habitat, would be unacceptable consequences of the proposed road.

Whilst I understand that the Borough Council must prepare a Development Plan for the future of Warrington, I cannot agree with the current proposals as they stand.

I trust that the next public consultation in 2018 will be publicised in plenty of time and in a clear and comprehensible format for the residents of Warrington.

Yours faithfully,