

[REDACTED]

27th September 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to object to the Preferred Development Option - July2017 and my main opposition points to these proposals are outlined below. These are my personal views of the PDO:-

The need to build so many houses within Warrington over the next 20 years is not only unrealistic but also excessive and quite disturbing. Such volume of building is not sustainable in an area where there is regularly gridlock on our roads and creaking services. Such a significant population rise in the Warrington area will go nowhere to addressing these issues and the NHS, schools, doctors etc. plus the road infrastructure will be unable to cope. Many parts of Warrington are already considered to be a bottle-neck for traffic which these proposals will exacerbate. Such development will be self-defeating as the town will be avoided rather than attract businesses/visitors/commuters etc.

I would urge the Borough Council to seek a much more realistic building development figure, and also to use available Brownfield sites for any development across the Borough. Retention of the Council's previous policy of only building on brownfield sites rather than Green Belt has proved very successful and transformed/re-generated many dilapidated areas of the town that were an eye-sore and have realised many benefits to the local population.

The use of so much Green Belt, especially in the South of Warrington, will change the character of these areas forever, and allows little room for future development. Such high volume of building in the Green Belt will also incur a huge loss of local wildlife, wildlife corridors, natural habitats of which these areas are rich. Air and noise pollution will also rise significantly which will have a detrimental effect on both wildlife and local people, and, as you are aware, air pollution is already an issue for Warrington.

I understand that a WBC Officer, [REDACTED], during a presentation he was making last week referred to Grappenhall as an '*urban area*'; this shows his lack of knowledge of this particular village and surrounding area. This is probably one of only a few remaining rural areas we have left within Warrington and which we should be preserving. Once such areas are lost they will be lost forever.

In relation to the potential strategic route utilising part of the existing Trans-Pennine Trail for a flyover, again through Green Belt land, is ill conceived. This is causing many local residents a great deal of worry and stress, with the rumour of their properties being compulsory purchased and demolished. This has been very poorly communicated and consulted upon by WBC. The use of part of this Trail will mean a loss of a greatly used and enjoyed facility for all residents within the area,

There is little detail on this particular aspect of the plan and it is unclear as to whom or how this will benefit people, nor how such an expensive scheme would be funded.

Warrington Borough Council also needs to be more transparent and clarify its position on 'City status'. I'm sure most residents within Warrington do not want their town and surrounding areas to become a city and the benefits to be gained are not clear.

Finally, the consultation process by WBC has not been transparent, poorly communicated and nor well thought out. Putting out consultation during a period which is known to be a 'recess period' for councils is not showing WBC in a good light or thinking of their local people. In fact I believe this has had an adverse effect and enraged the residents of whom the Borough serves. I am aware of other towns around the country that have organised various forms of consultation, including taking over a shop specifically to show their plans, in order that they ensure full communication and transparency whilst going through this process.

These are the main points I wish to raise, unfortunately there are many others. I would request that Warrington's PDO is scaled down significantly so that the impact to local Warrington residents, Green Belt and wildlife is beneficial rather than negative.

I request that my comments are carefully considered and that I receive receipt of my objections.

Yours faithfully,

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