

Comments on Warrington's Preferred Development Option

I have read the plan as issued and attended the public consultation at Park Royal Hotel and am aghast at the numbers of houses to be inserted into the south side of Warrington. Over seven thousand houses into Grappenhall and Appleton will swamp any infrastructure and destroy any landscape value. If this plan goes ahead, Planning will have succeeded in reducing south Warrington to a congested, polluted, brick-coloured slum.

Specifically, I oppose the filling of every green space around here for the following reasons:

1. Pollution. Even allowing for reduced emissions, the number of houses quoted means perhaps 12,000 cars plus the thousands of commercial vehicles supplying these homes. Air quality will be badly affected.
2. Congestion. Focusing all Warrington's expansion on the south side will create massive traffic problems. Warrington's record in handling traffic is awful; think A49 or Bridge-Foot or B5356/ A50 mornings and evenings. I have no faith that traffic will be handled efficiently.
3. Farming. It rarely gets a mention in the plan yet one farm caught up in the plan was voted Cheshire Farm of the Year (2016) and grows the oats for Mornflakes. Is food not important? One area of land in Thelwall is the best quality in Warrington but you disregard such features.
4. Landscape. The run down the hill into Warrington from M6 J20 is a pleasant introduction to Warrington. The stretch of the Bridgewater canal through Thelwall is the only rural stretch (both sides) in Warrington's entire area. Doesn't this count for anything?

The points listed are vital to the quality of life for the inhabitants. Does Warrington not have a duty of care to safeguard this?