


Planning Policy and Programmes Manager
Warrington Borough Council
Town Hall
Sankey Street
Warrington
WA1 1UH

Our ref WBC/LPPDO/001
Your ref

28th September 2017

Dear Sir,

**Warrington Borough Council: Local Plan Preferred Development Option
Consultation**

Thank you for consulting Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) on the development of Warrington's Local Plan Preferred Development Option. TfGM recognises that growth can bring benefits to the wider region including Greater Manchester, however it is important to ensure the growth of the wider region can be managed within the capacity of the available infrastructure.

TfGM welcomes Warrington's focus placed on the regeneration and continued evolution of the current town centre. Identifying the significant additional capacity that can be delivered through the regeneration plans for the town centre, Warrington Waterfront and wider inner Warrington area, will help strengthen the case for any future public transport improvements within Warrington and between Warrington and the surrounding areas, including Greater Manchester. It will therefore be important to maximise the capacity of the existing urban area to accommodate new development.

TfGM note the recognition within the Preferred Development Option that in order to deliver this scale of growth there is the need for significant investment in infrastructure. Warrington MBC (alongside TfGM) is working as a member of Transport for the North to improve the strategic transport connections to the town centre from Manchester, Liverpool and other major urban areas in the North West and plans for a major redevelopment of Bank Quay station. We welcome the recognition that to complement major infrastructure investment there is a need for a programme of ongoing improvements to road and public transport

connections to the centre from across the wider Warrington area as well as improvements to the public realm and accessibility within the centre itself.

TfGM recognises the challenges of accommodating growth. Significant housing and employment growth will generate additional demand on local and regional transport networks including the rail network, the Strategic Road Network, and the Key Route Network within Greater Manchester. TfGM looks forward to working with Warrington MBC and other stakeholders to help address these challenges. While increased demand is symptomatic of growth, it can also act as a constraint on future growth, and it is therefore essential to accommodate travel needs as sustainably as possible, maximising the efficient movement of people and goods. It will be important to ensure that the Local Plan emphasises that future residential and employment development should be designed in a way that prioritises and encourages sustainable and active travel options, in all the identified growth areas.

I hope these comments will be helpful in the progression of the Warrington Local Plan, and we look forward to working together in future. If you wish to discuss any of the issues raised, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



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