

PDO 2136

RE. WARRINGTON PREFERRED  
DEVELOPMENT OPTION.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to confirm my strong objections.

Cheshire has many lovely villages especially so, south of Warrington. The Bridgewater canal which runs through them or alongside is an added bonus. Lynn, Grappenhall and Thelwall attract many tourists and house hunters alike because they are pretty villages and can be easily accessed by road or waterway. These villages have their own personality and sense of community. They are surrounded by unspoilt countryside. They are not towns and do not want to be taken over by over-development of every green field. They still retain many narrow lanes never built to absorb large and heavy vehicles. These lanes add to the appeal and character of living in these places.

Living here we have a different pace of life than in Warrington. People are friendly and helpful and welcoming - not detached and impersonal as they can be in a town. They have more time to give and when they are riled by proposed plans to change what we all know and love and value, these communities come into their own and are ready to stand up and be counted and fight to protect what we all hold dear - our precious, unique, individual village identities.

As many people are now struggling to make ends meet how can the council justify proposing to build even more 5 bedroom executive houses on our valuable green belt. It doesn't make sense. Obviously it makes money for the developers and in turn the council. When realistically yet again first time buyers and young people who were brought up in these villages are not being catered for nor smaller homes for people with less money in their pockets.

I strongly feel that the proposed fly over from Latchford is a destructive, unnecessary element, carving up yet more of the countryside and destroying wild life and peoples' homes and their respective lives especially in Thelwall. Not to mention The Transpennine Trail which is a very popular coast to coast path enjoyed by walkers, dog walkers, cyclists, runners and many others, both from the area and beyond. It shows very little care for the communities which will be deeply affected and changed forever. Drivers don't want to come into Warrington unless they have to. What has it to offer?

The proposed idea of creating a community hub where the River Mersey meets the Ship Canal sounds like 'Pie in the Sky.' This will result in Warrington itself being sidelined and becoming a 'Cinderella town' (surplus to requirements.) Then there would be no need for the proposed expense of creating a new road.

Warrington needs to sort out its own infrastructure. Bridgefoot is a bottleneck and best to be avoided even at the school holidays. The traffic management leaves a lot to be desired - hence long queues of frustrated drivers is the norm and a daily inconvenience. Sometimes the green lights only allow two cars through which doesn't solve anything only adding to the congestion problem.

The A57 from the cockedge roundabout leading into Warrington looks like a poor relation. Shop fronts look shabby and uncared for alongside mismatched buildings. Visitors must wonder if this is representative of Warrington itself. By contrast Victoria Park and the new river defenses area has been greatly improved and looks interesting and inviting. First impressions are very important and long lasting in the memory.

Mid seventies

Welwyn Garden City is the village of old Welwyn

Planning restrictions meant that all buildings were no more than two storeys high with Georgian windows. Offset in the Garden City by pretty flower beds, fountains and framed by swathes of lush grass all neatly tended regularly. Everywhere always looked beautiful. We took a pride in its appearance and facilities for all. I hardly think Warrington could ever aspire to this.

A 'Park and Ride' scheme similar to that in Chester would be much more user friendly for the town and viable - set in situ near to each of the

Three motorways - M6, M56 and M62. It would serve the wider community and relieve daily congestion especially when the M6 blocks mid afternoon and cars try to avoid the hold ups by using the A50 to get round the problem.

I also think a proper working ring road round the town would have more impact than a proposed fly over spur could ever have.

Yours sincerely,