

[REDACTED]

I wish to express my strong opposition to the Preferred Development Option (PDO) put forward by Warrington Borough Council (WBC).

[REDACTED]

I am very disappointed in the communication process around this plan by the council and the timings of the consultation meetings to coincide with the holiday season. I am only aware of the plans through social media awareness campaigns by protestors and am concerned that many people who will be greatly impacted are not aware of the plans. There should have been a proper consultation process.

I do not believe that the extent of development proposed is required in Warrington, nor suitable for the town given its geographical constraints with the Manchester ship canal, river Mersey and Bridgewater canal posing significant barriers that require expensive infrastructure and loss of green belt land to bridge.

There is insufficient consideration for the traffic impact of such plans on an already heavily congested area. Frequent motorway closures, Manchester ship canal bridge swingings, and general day to day traffic already cause significant problems, pollution and inconvenience in the area without additional pressure from such large volumes of additional residents in the area, putting additional pressure on key areas surrounding our house - Ackers Road, Grappenhall Road, the Cantilever Bridge and the Lumbbrook Bridge.

We have always enjoyed living in the area - my wife has also lived here since birth [REDACTED] years ago and we are now raising a young family here. We like to walk in to Stockton Heath or to Grappenhall Heys from our home. These plans however will have a significant impact on our quality of life. Increased traffic will pose increased safety risks for us even trying to walk in the area, or go running, and should we chose to take the car we will be stuck in traffic jams. Our daughter goes to nursery in Thelwall and this journey from home and back and to from work on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED], will make journey times considerably longer and eat in to our limited leisure time with our daughter.

My wife will no doubt experience considerably longer commutes [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] using the Lymm interchange to access the M56. With no additional road links to the area to the motorways, and the additional housing likely to be taken up by commuters to Manchester and Liverpool, traffic congestion at these junctions will no doubt be considerable.

The issue of car parking in Stockton Heath has been ignored despite this already being a problem for an important retail and leisure area of the borough which will attract significantly more vehicles as a result of the PDO.

The proposal to take up so much of the Green Belt is particularly concerning given the impact this will have to our quality of life, the appeal of the area but especially the wildlife. One of the pleasures of living here is that we have such easy access to the countryside and have species such as buzzards, regularly fly over our house. This would be taken away from us and the survival of such species threatened by the PDO.

I believe that funding should instead be put into addressing the social issues in the town, especially the north, and investing in the town centre to make it much more appealing and consistent in its redevelopment. The new car park is an eye sore and there appears to be a real lack of coherence in the plans for the town. I do not want to see the town converted in to a city and expanded unnecessarily. It is not required, not wanted by its residents, and not in the best interest of the town or its heritage.

Yours sincerely

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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