



Key facts about Warrington's Air Quality.

A group of local residents has been working together to try and find some information that might be useful when you are responding to the Council's Consultation on their Preferred Development Option (PDO).

You don't have to use all of these points, or any of them at all if you don't want to, but we hope they help you decide what you want to say, or the questions you want to ask.

Building the numbers of houses and roads, as described by the PDO, is likely to bring thousands of extra cars in to the town every day. There is clear evidence that motor vehicles make a significant contribution to poorer air quality and congestion.

1. Air Pollution is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. The health cost of this in the UK is thought to be about £16 Billion every year.
2. Professor Paul Cosford the Medical Director for Public Health England, a national organisation that advises the Government and Local Authorities how to improve everyone's health said in March 2017

“Air pollution can damage lives with harmful effects on human health, the economy and the environment. It is the largest environmental risk to the public's health, contributing to cardiovascular disease, lung cancer and respiratory diseases.

It increases the chances of hospital admissions, visits to Emergency Departments and respiratory and cardiovascular symptoms which interfere with everyday life, especially for people who are already vulnerable. Bad air quality affects everyone and it has a disproportionate impact on the young and old, the sick and the poor”

<https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/assets/63091defraairqualityguide9web.pdf>

The plans are highly likely to increase the pressure on local NHS services due to poorer air quality.

3. In Warrington in 2013, 4.8% of all deaths were caused by man-made particulate pollution in our air, which is equal to 95 unnecessary deaths a year. This is slightly worse than the average for the North West of 4.6%.

4. In 2015 WBC measured levels of a harmful air pollutant called Nitrous Oxide in 47 places around the town. It has an annual mean objective of keeping levels below **40µg/m³**. The Council's own monitoring showed that in 2015, 28 (60%) of those sites had pollution levels higher than their own objective. In 2014 only 8 (17%) of sites exceeded that level so Warrington's Air Quality worsened.

Information source for points 1,3 & 4. [WBC Air Quality Annual Status Report 2016](https://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/201090/environmental_issues/2024/air_quality_and_pollution).

https://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/201090/environmental_issues/2024/air_quality_and_pollution

5. In May 2016, the World Health Organisation said that Warrington is the second worst place in the North West for breaching air pollution safety levels.
6. In 2011 the Council's Local Transport Strategy said
 - Warrington has a higher percentage of households with 2 or more vehicles (36%) than the rest of the North West (27%) or UK (30%).
 - Warrington attracts more journeys to work (97,078) each day than it generates (85,813) and is the 8th largest attractor of work trips in Greater Manchester, Merseyside & Cheshire.
 - Warrington has a higher percentage of people commuting over 20km to work in (17%) or out (18%) of the borough than the rest of the North West (10% & 14%).

These figures show that Warrington already has a heavy reliance on motor vehicles. Should the plans be approved air quality may worsen.

What else matters to you? Write to the Borough council telling them what you think of the plan.

You can do that by email or post.

Email: ldf@warrington.gov.uk.

Write to: Warrington Borough Council, Planning Policy and Programmes, New Town House, Buttermarket Street, Warrington, Cheshire, WA1 2NH

It doesn't matter how long or short your response is. The important thing is to let the council know the strength of feeling.

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT – THE NEW DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS
5 pm 29TH SEPTEMBER**