



Train Station in Lowton

lowton east neighbourhood development forum <lendf99@gmail.com>

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To: stan.walker1@gmail.com, BURNHAMA@parliament.uk, andy.burnham.mp@parliament.uk, Ged.Tyrrell@tyrrellsystems.com

FAO Stan Walker - Transport for Leigh

Dear Stan

I would like to explain why the reaction to your opening statement ("*1st draft of the Business Plan does not include the By Pass road*") at Monday night's LENDF meeting caused such anger amongst our residents.

Before Andy Burnham's public meeting at Lowton Social Club, Cllr James Grundy, Richard Short and myself had a meeting with Ged (Transport for Leigh) and explained that if a station was to have our support a By Pass from Atherleigh Way to the motorway must be incorporated into the plans and Ged agreed.

Had this not been the case the public meeting with Andy Burnham at Lowton Social Club would have received the same hostility. How does it look to the residents of Lowton when a bunch of guys from Leigh, want to place a station on one of the busiest roads in Greater Manchester increasing the congestion with no consideration of what it would mean to the residents of Lowton, and then calling it Leigh Station.

It was like throwing a grenade into the meeting. People felt they had been used just to get through the public meeting with Andy Burnham then the By Pass was dumped.

You must see that if a station was allowed without infrastructure improvements Lowton would become grid locked. In your own business plan you are looking at bringing users in from a 30 mile radius.

We have just finished objecting to Wigan Council's plan to build 2,500 houses in Lowton because the infrastructure could not support them. The Government Inspector agreed with us, and Andy Burnham supported our objection.

Now you are proposing a Station which creates greater congestion than the houses. We all know the follow on to the Station would be more houses and even hotels to service the travellers.

Last night I attended Braithwaite Road residents meeting. I have to tell you that they don't want the Station under any circumstances.

We have got to get this By Pass so the residents can see an overall improvement or they won't support it.

We understand that the Station is one business plan, however we can not support it unless there is a commitment from all involved for a By Pass.

I understand how you must have felt at the meeting, please be assured that it was nothing personal.

Ed Thwaite
Chairman

LENDF

Lowton East

Neighbourhood Development Forum