

Myth 6 The NWRR will complete the 'ring road'?

Shropshire Council claims that the NWRR will provide the 'missing link in Shrewsbury's ring road' and refers to York (population 202,800) and Oxford (population 160,021) as comparable cities that have ring roads. But this is a false analogy: rural towns the size of Shrewsbury (population 76,782) don't need ring roads. We don't even have a partially complete ring road, what we have is a major bypass on an international route (the A5) that loops outside the town's development boundary to the south and a link road (A49) that links the industrial areas of north Shrewsbury with their key markets in the West Midlands. These are the roads we need and the council and government should focus on making these fit for purpose (i.e. Battlefield, Sundorne and Dobbies Islands). Shropshire Council has never demonstrated a clear case for significant amounts of business traffic going from south west to north east round Shrewsbury.