

Myth 9 “Doing nothing is not an option” (©Dan Morris 2024)?

We'd say that that's what Shropshire Council has been doing for years! As the NWRR plan implodes the council has nothing to show for £40M spent and a decade wasted. The opportunity cost of their blinkered pursuit of this project is enormous for Shrewsbury and Shropshire as a whole. With that budget we could have had comprehensive cycle networks across all major town in Shropshire, or maybe improved bus services (NB capital not revenue argument from them here)

The council haven't looked at alternatives since 2003 at which time improved public transport was the most favoured option. The Shrewsbury Moves strategy produced by Shrewsbury BID is the kind of scheme that will actually address traffic congestion in the long term. It will need to be linked to a Local Plan that's not based on more car-dependent edge of town housing estates though.

BeST set out a very detailed assessment of the need for the NWRR compared to alternatives such as buses, P&R etc and Shropshire Council's woeful lack of investment in the latter over many years in Appendix 2 of our 2023 report on the NWRR <https://www.bettershrewsburytransport.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/6-BeST-Mar-2023-Response-to-Jan-EIR-submissions-4904012.pdf>