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Dear Sirs,

As a resident in S Warrington and Appleton Thorn, I object strongly to your PDO plans for the following reasons

* The economic and social evidence is weak for stating the need for 24,000 houses with 9,000 on existing Green Belt land- such a large increase in housing is totally unacceptable giving increased urban sprawl, loss of valuable green space, insufficiently planned acceptable infrastructure, destruction of rural landscape especially in outlying villages such as ours. I refer you to Mcr Mayor Andy Turnham who has argued strongly for the retention of Green Belt as an important feature in the development of towns and cities (2016)

* In particular, the small rural villages such as Appleton Thorn, Grappenhall and Stretton will be completely surrounded by the new residential developments. This will completely change the character of S Warrington and severely impact its openness, history and heritage.

- Paragraph 83 of The National Planning Policy Framework states that established Green Belt boundaries should only be altered in “exceptional circumstances”. There is no definition of “exceptional circumstances”. WBC indicated on page 15 that they believe that these are exceptional circumstances, but your reasoning is unclear.

* To access and enjoy open green space is an amenity in itself, so the loss of such a significant amount of green space will be detrimental to all Warrington residents, not just local ones.

* And in my opinion, calling part of it a Garden City is a bit of a con – dressing up such a large rural assault as a ‘nice to have’- you are wrong and this disrespectfully treats residents as naive.

* Locally in Appleton Thorn and as a co-author of Thorn Ward’s NDP team, the new local development plan (LDP) undermines a lot of the hard work we carried out in drawing up this neighbourhood plan, which was only accepted by the WBC a few months ago. In this we stressed the need for preserving rural landscape and village heritage, so we see the new LDP as an affront and threat to our already ‘accepted’ policies.

* There will be an additional 30,000 cars as a result of the PDO- I don’t see how this already traffic stressed area can cope with some much traffic congestion already experienced in Warrington. As for increased pollution, in May 2016, the World Health Organisation reported that Warrington is the second worst town / city in the North West for breaching safe levels of air pollution (second behind Salford).

According to the WHO, ambient air pollution is the greatest environmental risk to health and causes more than 3 million premature deaths worldwide each year.

Of course we see the need for increased planned development in Warrington meeting real structured needs but this PDO is a major assault on Green space. I trust you will take into account these points in reformulating the new LDP and I look forward to your considered response.

Yours sincerely

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PASSIONATE ABOUT PRESERVING GREEN LANDSCAPE