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Dear Sirs

I am appalled at the scale of development being proposed for South Warrington and the South West Extension. There seems to be little quantifiable justification for a such a massive expansion of housing and necessary infrastructure which will lead to the destruction of most of the current Green Belt and productive agricultural land.

While I appreciate that the Council is under some pressure from central government to create a Local Plan, there seems to be no actual criterion which dictates how much extra housing etc should be created. Instead, the architects of the current proposal for Warrington have set their own objectives. Setting aside the possibility that they are driven by some ambition to establish City Status for Warrington, my real concern is for the potential destruction of our countryside and the inevitable environmental consequences. I also appreciate the case for some development in areas around Appleton Thorn and Grappenhall Heys, given that growth in these two areas have been 'on the cards' for some years. However, the prospect of wholesale destruction of the rest of the countryside in South Warrington and Walton must be of great concern to many Warrington people who currently enjoy leisure time in these areas.

I do not wish to create an impression that South Warrington should be protected at all costs just because that is where I happen to live and I certainly do not appeal to the planners to seek some solution elsewhere. Any expansion plan must be complicated by the difficult local geography of our town. Few, if any, places in England are crossed by two major waterways with busy motorways on three sides. Therefore, I really believe that the scale of this proposed development is far too big for our town. If it goes ahead then we will witness the gradual elimination of its past history and its attraction to all Warringtonians.

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