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Dear Planning Policy Team,

1. I am e-mailing to comment on the proposed Local Plan. I would like to start by thanking you for organising the public consultation sessions- they were not ideal but were important and I hope lessons will be learned to make the next ones better.

2. I think future public meetings in Lymm need a bigger venue and also a more detailed presentation by a speaker. The video was useful but it wasted time with the rather irritating drawing/typing out of headlines and there were so many people present that it was difficult if not impossible to see the displays clearly.

3. On the actual proposals;

A ) I do not think the evidence for the number of new homes proposed has been presented. With the impact of Brexit looming it seems very unlikely that Warrington really needs to build the total proposed. I accept that some development is required but not at the level proposed.

B ) I think there is a huge focus on building in the South and South West of Warrington - it is impossible to accept that the settlements of Lymm, Thelwall and Grappenhall would be able to keep their current character - this proposed level of development would ruin their character and the most pleasant area of Warrington.

C ) Today, as I often do, I walked round Lymm dam and across the fields near the High School and onto the canal bank then back to Lymm Centre. The views here are absolutely beautiful and I think it would be quite wrong for our generation to lose any of this or similar green belt land - it is not fair on future generations and I think its vital to retain the green belt between Lymm and Oughtrington, Lymm and Thelwall and Lymm and Broomhedge. This green land gives us all space to breathe and enjoy the countryside - we have chosen to live in a rural place not a city suburb.

D) I think the Council should consider more houses to be built nearer to existing transport links, in particular Glazebrook where there is a train station - of great value to potential commuters and relieving the roads of at least some of the future traffic. Our motorways are very congested in this area and thought should be given to making better use of trains.

E) The infrastructure in Lymm is already at full capacity. To give two examples, Rushgreen Road is narrow and already busy and cannot be widened. Whitbarrow Road [REDACTED] is dangerous due to its blind curves and corners and cannot take any more traffic safely. Cars park on Whitbarrow Road, on the curves and make it dangerous for Brook Road residents trying to come out as some traffic now comes down the hill on the wrong side of the road to avoid the parked cars.

F ) Parking is a well known problem in Lymm - thank goodness the ill-considered changes to fees have been changed recently. It is unfortunate that some drivers have decided to park on Whitbarrow anyway - there will be an accident sooner or later in the section of Whitbarrow and Brook Roads.

G) I understand the High School is full and I know the surgeries are very busy. For all these reasons I do not accept that Lymm could accept further housing with the current infrastructure.

H) There appears to be an overemphasis on development to the South and South-West of town. Yet Lymm has already seen a great deal of development over the past 25 years - I do not accept that some of the new houses needed could not be to the north and east of Warrington town centre.

I) It is not clear what ratio of executive housing to affordable housing is proposed. I do feel that in Lymm planning has allowed some very large houses to be constructed and that the mix of houses now needs rebalancing so that there are more affordable houses for young people to be able to buy. I appreciate this may be not what developers want - but the role of the Council is to ensure that development is managed to the public good rather than the developers' profits.

In summary I object to the scale of development proposed and to the overemphasis on the settlements in the South and South West. These proposals would ruin the most attractive part of the Warrington area. I ask the team to look at proposing a more modest number of houses to be built in these areas so that we can avoid losing our precious green belt - after all once it is gone it would be gone forever. I am not reassured by the sentences about the remaining greenbelt being safeguarded for the long term either!

Yours sincerely

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