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Dear Sirs

We are writing to express our anger and disgust at the plans to build thousands of houses in Appleton and Grappenhall. This is wrong for so many reasons:

Taking so much green belt land to build on is unacceptable. The green belt is a local amenity enjoyed by the people who live in the area. Much of it is prime agricultural land, probably extremely valuable and we can assume that the developers will want to build large detached houses to recoup the cost of the land, not small starter homes. Replacing this by houses as far as the eye can see is not serving the local community, and once built on this open space would be lost for ever. The current residents would then be living in a completely different environment to what they enjoyed when they came to live here.

It goes without saying that there is already a huge problem with traffic. London Rd is regularly almost at a standstill and given that all the new dwellings you are proposing would probably have at least two cars, it is hard to imagine how we would actually be able to move freely along local roads. The idea of making Stockton Lane into a bus lane is ludicrous. At either end of the lane there is a narrow bridge with one way traffic controlled by traffic lights. Have any of you tried to get through Lumb Brook Bridge in the morning rush hour or when the schools finish in the afternoon? The traffic is usually backed up in Bridge Lane and down Lumb Brook road. Cars block Lumb Brook bridge because there is a further set of lights after a few yards to allow cars out onto the A50 and with more traffic coming down Lumb Brook Rd and from Stockton Lane, the situation would be impossible. It is no better at the other end of Bridge Lane with traffic from Broomfields Junior School, Cobbs Infants school and Bridgewater High School all trying to get out onto London Rd.

There is also an issue with Health Services. It is currently extremely difficult to get an appointment with a GP. There is mention in the plans for new GP surgeries but given the current shortage of doctors, it is difficult to see how a sufficient number of GPs could be brought in to serve the new population. It is not just GP appointments however, but the other needs that these generate, such as physiotherapy, ultrasound tests, etc etc. We also have the problem that Warrington Hospital seems to be continually downgrading. It can hardly meet the needs of the current population. How would it cope with the thousands of extra people in the area?

By implementing this plan you would ruin the beautiful villages of Stockton Heath and Grappenhall. Grappenhall village is a wonderful place of which we should be proud. We should not be almost obliterating it in this way. Stockton Heath would be so polluted by car fumes and parking there, which is already bad, would become impossible. If one of the

reasons for this plan is to achieve city status, please don't bother as no-one is interested in it. We want to keep South Warrington largely as it is. A city is not just a huge housing estate.

There is a final consideration. Warrington is always touted as the ideal place to site a business because of its links to the motorways. If vehicles are unable to move freely because the traffic is gridlocked they will soon think again and move away.

Yours faithfully

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