



Groves Town

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Warrington Local Plan Examination in Public	
Representor/Number	Stockton Heath Parish Council - 0383
Document Title	Observation on additional documentation matter 13 CD35
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Site	Whole Plan

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1. Stockton Heath Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to comment further on the issue of air quality.
2. It has to be repeated that a document dated June 2022 was not produced for the Examination until after the hearing session at which the matter was the subject of discussion.
3. It continues to be noted that the measurement of PM2.5 appears haphazard with dependence on identification of issues with NO₂ as a trigger to also consider issues relating to particulates. This does not appear to be a reliable basis as there is an increasing disconnect between vehicle exhaust emissions as decreasing source of NO₂ and the increasing issue of PM2 from additional traffic, heavier vehicles, increased braking and increased road wear.
4. It is recognised that measurement of trends in particulate based pollution has been difficult given the pandemic and impacts of travel patterns. This ability to measure trends will be further complicated over the next 12 months with the complete closure of the A49 over Stockton Heath Swing Bridge whilst the bridge is under repair for a period of 6 months
5. Additional documentation continues to recognise road traffic as the principle source of PM2.5.
6. There is recognition of scope for additional traffic on the highway network as result of development proposals much of which will be using existing highway infrastructure in South Warrington.

7. Air Quality management continues to reference the ability to implement the provisions of LTP4 and the establishment of a multi-modal transport model across the Borough as the means of securing reduction of air pollution to any level close to national or WHO measures.
8. There has been comment from many sources across the Examination which have questioned the realism of model shift to the extent suggested by LTP4. It must consequently continue to be questioned whether the approach towards air quality management can be realistically achieved.
9. There would seem to be a continued misunderstanding of poor connectivity between locations of employment allocations and residential development.
10. The absence of understanding of the impact of possible development on air quality can be seen in the way in which Langtree present development on their part of the South Warrington Employment Area. In the Examination the site was presented as providing the link between regional supply and last mile delivery. Larger numbers of smaller vehicles would deliver from a central hub in South Warrington. Vehicles on the local highway network must increase – there can be no realistic expectation of alternative modes for deliver in the plan period. Electric vans will be dispatched from Warrington – no longer

causing problems with exhaust emissions but all producing particulates through road wear, brake and tyre wear.

11. The way in which proposed development in South Warrington is proposed many of these vehicles would be passing through existing and proposed residential areas commonly delayed at pinch points in the network where new road infrastructure connects with already congested existing roads or where the network still relies on Victorian crossings of water courses.

12. The additional information provided in the late submission now tabled by the Council does nothing to alleviate the concerns of the Parish Council that air quality within the Borough generally and Stockton Heath in particular will at best remain above levels recognised as acceptable and will

likely increase as modal shift is not secured and additional traffic increases levels of pollution.