I write to record my objection to building 9000 homes on South Warrington's Green belt. The Plan appears totally absurd and certainly doesn't represent the aspirations of the local residents, which the council is meant to represent. I am disappointed if my Council Tax has gone on the preparation of this Local Plan.

As a Chartered Civil Engineer with 35 years' experience, I would like to focus on the transport issues raised by attempting to build 9000 homes in an area bounded by the M6 to the east, M56 to the south, A49 to the west and Manchester Ship Canal to the North. The Local Plan "indicates" that the only highway transportation improvement will be another high level crossing of the Manchester Ship Canal along the route of the Pennine Way to the north. No other additional highway entrance/exit from this area is proposed.

A new highway along the line of the old redundant railway line will be particularly challenging to construct. The existing corridor is not wide enough for a dual carriageway and extra land will be required. The existing bridge will have to be removed and another constructed at an acute skew angle in a very constrained site. Peel will no doubt want recompense for their permission to the scheme and air space (speak to Mersey Gateway). There is no indication as to where the carriageway will link up with the existing network in the Latchford area. There is also no mention of how the use of the existing railway corridor impacts with The Arpley Chord Scheme, a scheme that Warrington BC has been investing in for over 10 years. Is the Arpley Chord scheme now dead? Needless to say, the bridge would have to go in before any housing was constructed. Who will provide the up-front finance for the highway scheme ?

As a resident of Appleton Thorn, it is already a nightmare trying to access the Motorway network each rush hour. Restricted by the Stretton Road/A49 junction to the west, Bridgewater Canal and Ship Canal to the North, M6 and M56 motorways, the current plan will only make an acute situation worse.

The whole plan has been badly thought through and presented. It has no benefits to the local residents.

Yours faithfully

