From:

To:

Local Plan

Subject: WARRINGTON DRAFT LOCAL PLAN

Date: 14 June 2019 14:58:55

I wish to object to the Local Plan mainly because it would lead to an unjustifiable loss of Green Belt, without any real evidence of special circumstances and at a time when the Government is setting ambitious new targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I failed to find in this plan any persuasive social or economic arguments for the large scale development which entails the destruction of such a large part of the countryside in South Warrington.

It is hard to believe that Warrington, a town which already has some of the worst air pollution in the country, could be planning to convert vast tracts of farmland into housing estates and industrial and commercial premises. The proposed large scale increase in road traffic would not only be detrimental to the environment, with an increase in air and noise pollution, but would exacerbate the existing congestion on local roads which is already untenable. The transport plan does not offer anything like an adequate solution and indeed may never be delivered. If LTP4 were delivered it would, however, in several areas, actually add to the misery of local residents.

I find it difficult to understand why we spent years developing the Appleton Thorn Ward Neighbourhood Development Plan, one of whose prime aims was to protect the local Green Belt, when it can be so easily ignored.

It is ironic that one of the main reasons for Green Belt is to prevent urban sprawl when the plan is to replace vast stretches of Green Belt in South Warrington with 7,400 houses. This would mostly affect the village of Appleton Thorn, protected as we thought by the Neighbourhood Development Plan, already blighted by developers and in great danger of losing forever its individuality and identity as a Cheshire village because of the urban sprawl this plan would create.

