From:

To:

Local Plan

Subject: Warrington Local Plan **Date:** 11 November 2021 17:24:35

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to strongly object to the proposed local plan for many reasons which I shall list below.

Green Belt: Is it really justified to destroy so much of it? There seems to be uncertainty regarding the actual number of houses or employment areas needed and there seems to be no commitment to use on brown fields in the **first instance**. The impact on local wildlife, ancient woodland and our green environment should be taken extremely seriously and only be used if there is no alternative. The amount of houses proposed is not justified; it is a higher number than ever before and as our population is decreasing; this number cannot be justified.

Lack of infrastructure: Our roads are already congested and overused. The plan at Stretton up to the South East urban extension is not clear; where are these roads going to be, who is going to pay for them and will they be built before the new buildings? Our hospital, Gp surgeries and schools are already on their knees; there seems to be no clarity as to when these new, vital services will be up and running. These questions need to be answered before your plan is deliverable.

Town Centre: This needs regenerating **before** any any green spaces eg Thelwall Heys. Incidentally, Thelwall is a small village prone to flooding and totally unsuitable. It it also home to many endangered species of birds such as grey partridge, tree sparrow, skylark and yellowhammer.

Employment: There is much talk about the 6/56 area providing employment opportunities within logistics and industry. What are these types of employment? My concern is that they will be low skilled and low paid jobs which will mean a more transient population.

Pollution: Warrington has one of the worst air pollution in the country. How is this going to improve with increased cars and wagons? Your plan does not address these concerns and therefore is unjustified.

Green spaces: Currently we are able to enjoy the greenspaces in and around Appleton, Thelwall and Grappenhall. Warrington Borough Council's idea of green spaces in the new plan is to bulldoze over the greenbelt, build on it and then offer a small garden or children's play area. This is unacceptable.

Warrington Borough Council's own Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2019-2023 has a foreward by S Broomhead which at the end states 'evidence shows multiple benefits from quality green spaces, including improved air quality and less noise pollution. Healthy green places increase social interaction and reduce antisocial behaviour, isolation and stress, improving mental health'. Opportunities to protect and improve parks and incorporate community gardens within urban areas need to be maximised'.

This is in complete contradiction to the proposed local plan and an insult to all.

Yours faithfully

Cath Ataullah