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**Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation**

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Name or Organisation: Keith Whitehead

3. To which part of the Local Plan Review does this representation relate?

Paragraph  Policy

4. Do you consider the Local Plan Review is:

4.(1) Legally compliant	Yes	<input type="text"/>	No	<input type="text"/>
4.(2) Sound	Yes	<input type="text"/>	No	<input type="text" value="X"/>
4 (3) Complies with the Duty to co-operate	Yes	<input type="text"/>	No	<input type="text"/>

Please tick as appropriate.

5. Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan Review is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the Duty to Co-operate. Please be as precise as possible. If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Local Plan Review or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

See representation on separate sheet below

(Continue on a separate sheet /expand box if necessary)

6. Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan Review legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified at 5 above. (Please note that non-compliance with the Duty to Co-operate is incapable of modification at examination). You will need to say why each modification will make the Local Plan Review legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

See representation on separate sheet below

(Continue on a separate sheet /expand box if necessary)

**Please note:** In your representation you should provide succinctly all the evidence and supporting information necessary to support your representation and your suggested modification(s). You should not assume that you will have a further opportunity to make submissions.

**After this stage, further submissions may only be made if invited by the Inspector, based on the matters and issues they identify for examination.**

7. If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)?

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**No**, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)

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**Yes**, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)

Please note that while this will provide an initial indication of your wish to participate in hearing session(s), you may be asked at a later point to confirm your request to participate.

8. To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) report does this representation relate?

Paragraph

Please add any further comments relating to the SA report in the box below.

(Continue on a separate sheet /expand box if necessary)

9. If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

**Please note** the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate in hearing session(s). You may be asked to confirm your wish to participate when the Inspector has identified the matters and issues for examination.

## Details of why the Local Plan Review is not sound

From the Local Plan Review referencing DS3 there is the following chart.

Tackling the causes and consequences of climate change	<u>Low Emission Development</u>	Sustainable development policy DS3
Having a relentless focus on tackling the causes of climate change and mitigating the inevitable consequences of this, to ensure the well-being of our residents and position Coventry as a leader and pioneer of the green industrial revolution.	Investing in the development of technology solutions with businesses, universities, and partners to increase the adoption of new efficient, zero carbon renewable energy generation technologies. Promoting and supporting inward investment of zero carbon technologies in making the city a global market leader in a clean and green transport e.g., Very Light Rail and encouraging residents, communities, and businesses to take up active and green forms of travel.  Encouraging green behaviours from everyone that lives, works or visits the city, and working with schools to implement sustainability into the curriculum in a holistic way.	Health policy HW1  Employment policies JE1 - JE7  Housing policies H1 – H13  Community policies CO1-3

The priority is named as “Tackling the causes and consequences of climate change”.

In 2017 when the Council’s Cabinet approved looking at Very Light Rail, it was a “Low Emission Development” that could tackle the causes of climate change. At the time this was promoted as “decarbonising public transport”.

Unfortunately events have overtaken this project and Coventry is already well on the way to decarbonising public transport by becoming the first electric bus City in the UK this year. Hence Coventry has tackled the causes and consequences of climate change for public transport in the City.

The timescale for the first route to the hospital was meant it would be operational in 2025. That route has been dropped and there is no current funding approved for a Very Light Rail route in Coventry. Very Light Rail in Coventry has no current merit and should not be in the Local Plan. With the electric buses, Coventry’s public transport system is close to being balanced in favour of sustainable transport mode.

Paragraph 12.47 in the Local Plan and also included in Policy AC5 says *Major trip generators such as the city centre, Ansty Park, Whitley Business Park, the Universities and the Hospital will be a priority for the provision of high quality rapid transit services. Routes will also serve Coventry main railway station and other transport interchanges to enable close integration*

This paragraph is inaccurate. *“Major trip generators such as the city centre, Ansty Park, Whitley Business Park, the Universities and the Hospital will be a priority”*. The Local Democracy Reporting Service was told in January 2025 the Council stated that an alternative to Ansty Park and the Hospital "makes far more sense." Hence clearly saying that Ansty Park and the Hospital are not priorities. Hence claiming that they will be a priority in the Local Plan is not credible.

*12.46 The Council's preferred way to deliver rapid transit is the Very Light Rail system and development proposals which are expected to create significant numbers of additional trips on the network, and are located in close proximity to a proposed rapid transit route should seek to make provision for those routes including new infrastructure to facilitate the integration of the rapid transit network into the development site. The level of need and expected provision will be determined through Transport Assessments and Travel Plans.*

*“The Council's preferred way to deliver rapid transit is the Very Light Rail System”* to Ansty Park and the Hospital is inaccurate as plans have shifted to looking for funding for the new priority route that will go to the investment zone via a south-east loop route through Whitley.

## Modifications considered necessary to make the Local Plan Review sound

The suggestion to make the Local Plan Review sound is to remove all references to Very Light Rail as it is not viable for Coventry. No funding for routes has not been provided and attempts to fund a route to the Hospital failed and attempts to fund the route to the Ansty Park rely on the route to the Hospital being built.