For the attention of:
Core Strategy Consultation,
Ribble Valley Borough Council,
Council Offices,
Church Walk,
Clitheroe BB7 2AH.

Are the proposed Core Strategy plans for housing in Clitheroe sound or justified? The answer is a resounding No.

There is no evidence available to the public that shows Clitheroe could support, or needs, the proposed 1,670 new homes. Responses from the R.V.B.C. about a sound infrastructure to support developments are totally unsatisfactory.

With regard to overstretched health services in Clitheroe there are no plans to upgrade, develop or increase G.P. practices, health services or hospital provision.

The pressing problems of travel plans to improve highways, air management, cycling provision and the need for better travel flow through the town and extra parking - again no plans.

No guarantees can be found to reassure Clitheroe residents that extra water, waste water and refuse services can be provided.

Quality of life issues including leisure facilities and extra parks - no plans and no money.

It would appear that the whole question of education provision at
nursery, primary, secondary and tertiary level cannot be answered except by ‘burning’ children of all ages around and outside the Ribble Valley which is totally unacceptable.

I appreciate there is a need for some new houses particularly in the villages to enable growing families to remain in their locality but where are the plans for new jobs to support and attract lots of relocation to the Ribble Valley - no plans. Perhaps in the light of the government’s determination to save more housing, Clitheroe could support some small developments, collectively adding up to 1000 new homes, which is 25% of the Ribble Valley’s supposed needs. These developments could be assimilated over time, requiring a minimum of greenfield sites, the development of too many would totally change for the worse, the very nature and appeal of Clitheroe as a small, rural market town.

The present plans are unsound on the basis of inadequate infrastructure surrounding education, health provision, leisure, transport and utilities.

As a Clitheroe resident I do not believe Clitheroe can, or should have to absorb more than 25% of any planned new development as Clitheroe makes up only 25% of the R.V. population. To absorb 40% of the overall planned core strategy without a credible infrastructure plan is unsound.

Yours faithfully