Dear all,

We write in relation to the Additional MAC consultation.

In relation to MAC number Inspector MAC1, the replacement of the green belt with a green wedge, we would like to make the following comments:

It is disappointing that the Inspectors are proposing the removal of the green belt from Cardiff’s LDP. Whilst a green wedge is proposed, the lack of permanence is concerning and would threaten the “distinctive, prominent and well known green backdrop to the city, forming a strategically important setting to the urban area”.

Were a green wedge to be introduced, then it could be subject to potential change as part of future monitoring arrangements, whilst a green belt is fixed beyond the 11 years remaining of the LDP plan period.

It is acknowledged that the backdrop of Cardiff North (which includes a part of Rhiwbina) forms the setting of Cardiff, not just visually but a barrier to development encroaching up Caerphilly Mountain (Garth ridge). It is essential that a green belt is designated in order to stop those who would seek to breach that barrier otherwise, even with a green wedge designation, this distinctive and prominent part of Cardiff risks becoming just a prominent urban suburb of a sprawling city.

We are also aware that Cardiff Council has submitted rationale for designating a green belt, rather than green wedge, and we would support their view.

With best wishes,

Jayne Cowan and Adrian Robson