34 Woodburn Crescent Aberdeen AB15 8JX August 16, 2014

Development Management, Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Aberdeen City Council, Business Hub 4, Marischal College Broad Street, Aberdeen AB10 1 AB

Dear Sirs

Planning Application: Ref: 141026

I wish to lodge an objection to this application for a proposed development adjacent to Hazlehead Park. If such a major development of this type is needed in or near Aberdeen, it is difficult to believe that a more appropriate site less damaging to the environment cannot be found.

My fundamental objection is that it will lead to further degradation of Hazlehead Park, a priceless heritage of treasured green space gifted for recreation and sporting activities for the citizens of Aberdeen and beyond. Our Council should be determined to protect this valuable resource at all costs. Unfortunately the opposite seems to be happening - a process begun with the recent siting of a waste re-cycling centre at its entrance and continuing with the excessively large housing development currently taking place immediately to the south.

Many families and persons of all ages use the park and its immediate surroundings as a peaceful and relatively safe environment for walking, horse riding and cycling. What is envisaged in this grandiose plan will destroy that or, at the very least, make it much less enjoyable or safe. The inevitable increase in through traffic, already a concern with the removal of the traffic barrier towards Countesswells Road and its replacement with notices that are ignored, raises further questions about safety. Even if through traffic was prohibited, traffic into and out of the area to service a large hotel and associated developments will make matters much worse.

Drainage from the area is a continuing problem, exacerbated by the Dandara housing development in the neighbouring fields. Pollution of the natural burns and their outlets to Walker Dam and Johnston Gardens has already occurred and has been investigated by SEPA.

To cope with the considerable increase in traffic, major re-construction of the roads and tracks into and within this area will be necessary. It is difficult to see how this can be accomplished without the removal of protected trees and the re-alignment of ancient stone dykes and other boundaries. To allow the destruction involved would display a total lack of sensitivity to a beautiful and peaceful resource which we have inherited. It could never be replaced.

Yours faithfully

