

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc: [Stuart Andrew.MP](#)
Subject: PDE00156_Leeds SAP's
Date: 29 October 2015 11:24:46

Dear Planning Dept.,

I believe the Aireborough SAP is UNSOUND on the grounds that it destroys the supposedly protected local character and Greenbelt and will increase considerably harmful environmental pollution resulting from standing traffic.

The Wharfedale Observer for Thursday 22 Oct 2015 on p4 contained a report of a public meeting in Rawdon on Sunday 18th October and that followed from other similar local meetings. The meeting voiced 'Huge support for campaign against homes being built on the green belt' and you must be well aware of local feelings generated by the area SAP's. Although I have already submitted my own detailed objections to the individual sites in Aireborough's SAP, I also wish to be associated with the objections voiced at this meeting by the residents and all of their elected representatives, including the local MP.

The longer this process goes on, the more obvious the lack of fitness for purpose of the current SAP's becomes. There really is only one sensible way of coping with the number of homes Leeds claim are needed. This is through the creation of a New Town and the lack of this proposal for consultation renders the whole process unsound. The Core Strategy allocated new residents simply according to the proportion of Leeds total population per area and was never going to be fair or practical as it takes no account of the existing infrastructure and settlement character etc. The impossibility of finding acceptable solutions will give rise to years of objections and create a great many alienated residents.

Although a New Town is the only proposal that fits the needs of Leeds, it cannot be discussed because it has not been put to the residents and this is a scandalous situation. This city needs someone with the courage to admit error and the ability to quickly produce a viable alternative to the present plans so that an alternative can at least be discussed.

A New Town will inevitably be a dramatic change for a small community, but at least the damage should be concentrated on the parts of Leeds already proposed for employment and with close links to National road and rail communication networks. Among the many advantages of a New Town are: reducing commuting by bringing houses and jobs closer together, with the additional environmental benefits from a reduction in standing traffic instead of the increase that will follow from the present plans; concentrating population and services means that new viable transport links can be created and will enable schemes like the Leeds Tram to at last be recognised by the Government; the Northern Greenbelt land, instead of being lost forever to Urban Sprawl, will remain available for future generations as a landbank to be trickle fed into the system at a manageable rate;

an adequate educational infrastructure can be planned and schools built at the same time as homes; properties will be much more affordable; the character of outlying settlements such as Otley and Wetherby will be protected and will continue to be attractive places to visit for pleasure. A New Town is a positive and not a negative solution and even the comparatively small number of existing residents will have the benefits of vastly improved shopping, employment and recreational facilities plus greatly improved transport connections.

Yours sincerely and in the hope it is not too late for common sense to prevail,

Alec Denton

29.10.15

27 Oxford Avenue, Guiseley. Leeds LS20 9BY

cc Stuart Andrew MP