

**From:**  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan; saveourgreenbelt@rawdonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:saveourgreenbelt@rawdonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
**Subject:** PDE00159\_Proposed future development  
**Date:** 28 October 2015 20:51:08

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Dear Sirs,

I am extremely concerned regarding the proposed development of Rawdon and the neighbouring areas. I am a regular walker within the area and find the countryside very relaxing which prevents and alleviates stress. I believe the more dense the population and building in an area the more problems with stress which is a major health problem for many and is worryingly on the increase. Modern development tries to fit as much into an area as possible with little regard for the health and well being of the community.

Recent developments in the area all include large expensive homes which only facilitate the movement of the middle and upper classes. We need first time homes and family homes.

Developers seem to have the 'upper hand', they prefer Green Belt land rather than brown- very understandable they do not have to demolish & make the area suitable for building before they build; also it was pointed out at the meeting with Rawdon Parish Council that developers agree to provide schools, shops and health centres etc within the development then at the end say such is no longer viable, quite a saving for them and a loss to the local area as it never happens or has to be provided by other finances. The council should 'police' these matters and take action and not just pick up the bill.

The need of 70000 more homes in Leeds is a number that has proved to be incorrect following the last National Census, which says we need 45000. Prior to the election Leeds said they would review the number, after the election we are told it will be reviewed in 3 years – too late for a lot of the local Green Belt.

A lot of the NPPF is dedicated to the protection of Green Belt saying that the boundaries should only be altered in exceptional circumstances as the aim is to prevent urban sprawl. Urban sprawl is continuous already from Leeds to Horsforth, with the proposed developments HG2-43, HG2-41, HG2-12, HG3-3, HG2-12, and HG3-2 the sprawl will continue further to join up with development further out of Leeds besides the A65. The sprawl continues to Menston, yes Leeds does join Bradford another major city. The 2 city councils need to liaise to prevent further urban sprawl all along the boundary. This merging of urban areas is inconsistent with both the NPPF and Leeds Core Strategy.

Leeds City Council has set out a strategic plan within the Core Strategy document to protect the land between the A65 and the River Aire as Strategic Green Infrastructure thus enhancing its Green Belt status. Why are there now proposals to build HG2-41, HG3-2, HG3-3, HG3-4, HG2-12 all Strategic Green Infrastructure sites.

On Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 Brandon Lewis, the Housing Minister stated in parliament to answer a question from Stuart Andrew MP: "Unmet housing needs should not exceed maintaining the Green Belt". I believe the use of Green Belt to meet housing numbers (of which the number Leeds say they need is probably flawed) is inconsistent with national policy.

Rawdon is in an elevated position with wonderful views across the valley, these views will be lost

with the concentrated development of HG2-43 and HG2-41.

We need more homes but mainly for first time buyers and families.

We need to protect Green Belt and use Brown land wherever possible.

We need to get developers to carry out their promises regarding the infrastructure within a development.

We need a correct and up to date figure re numbers of homes needed.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Ankin