

**From:**  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE00163\_Site Allocations and Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan  
**Date:** 28 October 2015 18:57:51

---

## National Planning Policy Framework and Leeds Core Strategy

---

The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open;  
to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;  
to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;  
to preserve the setting and character of historic towns;  
to assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

---

I wish to register my strong objection to Leeds City Council's Site Allocation for housing in Rawdon and Horsforth on the following grounds:-

Housing Target Numbers:-

-----  
The target of seventy thousand new houses is based on out of date statistics and that expected population growth is such that a more realistic target would be forty thousand six hundred.

Green Belt:

-----  
The use of local green belt is inconsistent with section 9 (Protecting Green Belt) of the National Planning Policy Framework. The development of HG2-41, HG3-2, HG3-3, HG3-4 would effectively merge Horsforth and Rawdon. Added to HG2-10 Gill Lane these sites would mean the loss of almost all green space from Leeds City centre to Menston.  
Development of these areas would mean loss of Special Landscape Areas HG2-12 and HG2-41

Rawdon Cragg Wood Conservation area HG12 ,HG3-2 HG3-3 HG3-4, Knott Lane and Layton Lane are all shown as Strategic Green Infrastructure. They include Wildlife habitats, restrict the enjoyment of walking, cycling and horse-riding and loss of Grade 3 farmland.

A65 Already full and over capacity

-----  
The development of HG2-41 with a school would be highly dangerous and cause gridlock at Horsforth Roundabout. The access by one point at HG2-12, HG3-2 and HG3-3 would be unsuitable.

The Development is not effective:-

Highways access and significant risk of surface water flooding.

The development is not positively prepared:-

The Site Allocations Plan for these Rawdon Sites are not based on a comprehensive Greenbelt Review as required by a previous Inspector.

The development is not in accordance with the NPPF. Especially Chapters 9,

Protecting the Green Belt, Chapter 11 Conserving Natural Environment and 12 Conserving Historic Environment.

By not considering alternatives the council has not proved that 'exceptional circumstances' exist to outweigh the harm that development would cause to the greenbelt sites here.

I believe that the inclusion of large greenbelt sites in this area conflicts with national policy as well as Leeds own declared policy.