

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc:
Subject: PDE00223_Site Allocation Consultation
Date: 26 October 2015 17:57:58

Mrs Arwen Strudwick
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To whom it may concern,

I wish to respond to the Site Allocation Consultation, which I consider an attack on the character of my village and on the essential greenbelt of the city. The plan is not sound.

Have the plans been positively prepared?

There is nothing positive about the plan, which aggressively targets greenbelt and greenfield areas.

The current plans identify sites that are designated Strategic Green Infrastructure: for example HG2-41 is an unbroken stretch of green space, and identified as part of the Strategic Green Infrastructure. Constructing homes and destroying this space would be a reprehensible decision. The Strawberry Fields (HG2-41) provide green space that allows Rawdon and Horsforth to remain separate and distinct villages. The site HG2-42 provides a similar delineation between Horsforth and Calverly, and the site HG2-43 is a nature reserve. It is irresponsible to consider a reserve for development and reduce the biodiversity through the destruction of green space.

I also strongly object to the plans for sites HG3-2, HG3-3 and HG3-4 for the same core reason. These are greenbelt and not suitable for development.

Site HG2-12 is unsuitable for development because it is greenbelt and identified as Strategic Green Infrastructure. I object to site HG2-9; it is greenfield.

My comments sound repetitive, but underlying each proposed site is the same flawed reasoning: that we should sacrifice greenbelt, Strategic Green Infrastructure, wildlife habitat and greenfield for housing. I object because we absolutely should not! Local need, or desire, for housing in the village of Rawdon and the nearby villages of Horsforth, Yeadon and Calverly should be balanced against preserving our greenbelt.

Are the plans justified?

The reliance on greenbelt demonstrates that these are not the most appropriate places

to develop. brownfield sites exist and are all far more appropriate to meet housing need. I see neglected sites in the city centre and throughout the city every day on my commute. Any plans should target these areas rather than sacrifice the necessary greenbelt to the greed of development firms who prefer these more attractive sites. If we intend to be the best city, we certainly should target derelict and underdeveloped sites rather than sanctioning the destruction of our Strategic Green Infrastructure.

The only proposed sites that seems to have taken this into account is HG2-7 and HG2-8 which are 80% brownfield. I would support the development of these sites.

Will the plans be effective?

The only effect this plan will have is to irreparably damage the natural environment and the character of the villages.

Is the plan consistent with national policy?

The plan is contrary both to the National Planning Policy Framework and Leeds Core Strategy. Normal growth of the city and the response to a need for housing development is not an exceptional circumstance; therefore the allocation of greenbelt sites for development is wholly inappropriate. Greenbelt areas are intended to be permanent green spaces.

Yours faithfully,

Arwen Strudwick