

**From:**  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE00243\_Site allocations plan - Rawdon  
**Date:** 25 October 2015 15:53:30

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11 Low Green,  
Rawdon,  
Leeds LS19 6HB

I have lived in Rawdon for the last 20 years and am now raising my family here. I have 2 children at the local primary and secondary schools.

I write to object to the proposal to build 2,300 houses in Aireborough, in particular the following:

HG2-12 woodlands drive;

HG3-2 and HG3-3 Knott lane east and west;

HG3-4 Layton lane.

These development are not justified: special landscape area will be forever lost (HG2-12) and the development will spoil the beautiful, rural landscape of this area. A highly valued conservation area will be forever lost- HG3-3. No comprehensive greenbelt review has taken place.

We will lose the village identity of Rawdon to a mass of unplanned urban sprawl- those of us who live here with our families appreciate our open countryside and greenbelt. The loss of wildlife habitats is of particular concern to my children- HG2-12, HG3-3, HG3-4 are UK biodiversity action plan priority habitats.

These developments will not be effective: the A65 does not have capacity to cope with the numbers of additional car users. Already congestion from the ring road roundabout in the morning rush hour can tailback to past our turning for Low Green where we cross the road to school. Pretty soon the stretch from Rawdon traffic lights to the roundabout will be one long car park. HG2-12, HG3-2, HG3-3, HG3-4 will affect this, not to mention the proposal for 777 houses and school on the roundabout (HG2-41). Public transport in this area is not an effective solution due to lack of bus lanes. An average weekday rush hour journey on the bus from Rawdon traffic lights into Leeds city centre is already over an hour.

I do it believe that potential alternatives have been considered: brownfield sites are available elsewhere across Leeds. LCC core strategy says itself that all these must be developed before greenbelt land.

The facilities and amenities in our area are already struggling to cope with the numbers of people using them. Take, for example, Aireborough Leisure Centre, itself a poor facility, and unable to offer sufficient swimming lessons for the children in the area, forcing many parents to pay for expensive alternatives. Another small example would be lack of places for children at Beavers, Cubs, Brownies etc. Our high schools, already very

large, are full to capacity and should not be expanded. Many of the facilities at Benton Park School are poor - the sports teams are unable play home matches in many cases. The gyms were out of action for over 6 months last year, as the roof was falling in, forcing all my son's PE lessons to take place outside. Classrooms and buildings are shabby. The pupils and teachers at the school are remarkable in overcoming these adversities to achieve great results and a wonderful atmosphere, but the school simply could not cope with additional pupils.

Please do not ignore the immensely strong views of our community. I have never objected to planning or development of this kind before, but these plans are simply unacceptable and do not make sense in the context of our area.

Yours faithfully, Helen Howard