

**From:**  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Cc:** [Collins, Cllr Dawn](#)  
**Subject:** PDE00355\_Green Belt development in Horsforth\_Rawdon  
**Date:** 15 October 2015 21:04:10

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Dear sirs,

I am writing in response to the housing Site Allocation Consultation that is currently occurring in Horsforth. Although I am aware that there are shortages of housing in the district and have no issue with a certain level of development, as we are all entitled to have a place we call home, I am against the huge scale of development that is being propositioned across the Horsforth /Rawdon area. I am particularly against the proposed development of Sites HG2-41, as there has already been significant development in this valley with the Redrow estate, which will have significant impact on local infrastructure, but has made good use of land that was brownfield and an eyesore. This has increased housing within the Horsforth already, as has the housing development within the Kirkstall Forge area. The development of the Strawberry picking field with an additional 777 homes would severely impact on the green belt that separates the Horsforth/Calverly neighborhoods, and result in the urban sprawl that would make differentiation between the 2 villages difficult. This would also be the case if the sites linking Horsforth and Rawdon were allowed to proceed, ie. HG22-12, HG3-2, HG3-3 and HG3-4. Again, these are key areas of Greenbelt land that should not be allowed to be built on, as they are key strategic green infrastructure, that separates the 2 areas and reduces urban sprawl.

I feel it is important from a public health point of view that areas of Greenbelt are kept available to the general public, as well as local residents, in order to provide green space both from an environmentally aesthetic point of view, but also to ensure people have space where they can exercise, socialise and improve their mental and physical health and wellbeing. With the high levels of obesity and health issues already in the Yorkshire region, reducing further opportunities for walking, cycling, playing football, etc, through building on greenbelt land should be avoided as much as possible. I strongly believe that the areas of proposed development are in use regularly by local residents for all the above and would be detrimental to the overall wellbeing of the local community if the levels of building suggested were allowed to develop.

I have no issues with building on Brownfield sites being allowed - site HG2-44, or on re using the Saint Joseph's site, or where the former waste water treatment works were as these sites have all previously had developments on them and therefore should be regenerated and made good use of. Nor would I have huge issues with smaller developments being planned on some of the HG2-43 site. However the scale of this, when taking into account the other plans for the local area seem ridiculous and I would prefer to see smaller areas of development that included opportunities for smaller (and therefore more affordable) houses with opportunities for maintaining some green spaces within these. Perhaps more smaller houses or apartments would also ensure a more even spread of age across the area, rather than just focusing on family sized housing opportunities.

I look forward to hearing from you in response,

Yours sincerely,

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