

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE00477_LEEDS SITE ALLOCATION PLANS - FORMAL OBJECTION
Date: 09 November 2015 21:12:14

Dear Sir / Madam,

As part of the Leeds Site Allocation Plan public consultation process, I would like to formally object to the proposed development of the use of greenbelt sites across the Leeds Area and in particular the following sites:

- HG2-41 (4240) - Fields South of A65 from Horsforth & Rawdon RA to crematorium
- HG2-42 (1016) - Fields at Broadway and Calverley Lane, Horsforth
- HG2-43 (5009) - Fields at Horsforth College Campus
- HG2-12 (4254) – Fields at Woodlands Drive

I have been a resident in Horsforth for over 30 years and chose to move here because of its village feel and semi-rural environment. My family and I have enjoyed the open green spaces and have spent a lot of time walking within the open green fields, enjoying the wild life and beauty of the area. Over the years the area has become increasingly congested due to large numbers of new homes creating increased traffic. I am particularly concerned about the proposed allocation of green belt sites in the Leeds site allocation plans.

I believe that the inclusion of these areas of greenbelt in the site allocations is wrong and is in breach of the national planning laws and Leeds own “core strategy” and cannot be justified. These sites should continue to be part of Leeds’ ‘Strategic Green Infrastructure’ as identified in the Adopted Core Strategy.

I understand that national policy states that brown field sites are to be prioritised over the development of green field and greenbelt but these plans offer up greenbelt in advance of many brown field sites which are allocated for housing. There is a need for large scale affordable housing in Leeds and this will not be fulfilled by developing on sites on greenbelt land in semi-rural areas, but on the renewal of brown field land in areas in need of urban regeneration and investment. The three sites listed above are in areas which command high property values for new builds. The small percentage set aside for affordable housing within these premium area developments only scratches the surface of the problem and in no way alleviates the real issue in the way that true urban regeneration should.

I also understand that national policy also states that merging of communities is to be prevented, however three sites identified above currently act as the dividing space between the villages of Horsforth, Rawdon and Rodley. The building of over 1,000 new properties as suggested will effectively merge these areas together resulting in a loss of individual community identity. Community identity is essential to our health and wellbeing. One of the reasons for our moving to Horsforth was the village community and open spaces both of which will be lost through these proposals. This will have a negative effect on mine and my family’s health and wellbeing.

Three of the proposed sites are located on a section of the A6120 and the A65.

These roads are already heavily congested. Building over a thousand extra houses will result in extremely dangerous conditions for pedestrians and drivers. The A6120 is already a bottleneck due to the bridge crossing the river, canal and railway. This in itself will restrict the provision of a suitable infrastructure to support these developments. The effect of daily gridlock within the Horsforth area will have a negative effect on the health and wellbeing of myself, my family and Horsforth residents as well as people who have to pass through it to other areas of the city and beyond. Congestion is already a major issue in this area and can only be made worse by further developments.

The above sites are host to a huge array of wildlife. As a family we have enjoyed being able to observe wildlife in its natural habitat within our local area. We would like to continue to be able to do this with our grandchildren. Large scale building on these green belt sites will have serious environmental impact of the wildlife resulting in destruction of these natural habitats. This could result in the loss of certain species from this area.

Site HG2-41 (4240) is also used as agricultural land e.g. locally grown asparagus and as Pick Your Own fruit fields. During the fruit picking season, the fields provide thousands of people from the local community with a meaningful way to connect with the natural environment. It also reminds and teaches children (and adults) the importance of the land as a source of growing food. Again building on this greenbelt land will prevent ourselves and future generations of our family and others from this local amenity.

Please keep me informed of the public examinations, submission of the plans and potential outcome of the review.

Yours faithfully,

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10