

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE00586_New housing developments in Horsforth
Date: 08 November 2015 17:33:00

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed housing developments on both green belt land and brownfield sites in Horsforth. I am not denying that the country and Leeds need more houses, preferably ones that families on lower incomes can afford; neither is my stance one of 'NIMBYism'.

The houses on the former Clariant site are not really so called social housing and they don't seem to be selling very quickly. Even so the additional traffic they have brought has already created even more congestion on the over-loaded A65 and ring road; the junction where the road leading from the development joins the ring road, between the Horsforth and Olive Tree roundabouts, is, in my opinion dangerous, despite the recently completed improvements to the road and roundabouts; more houses built on the adjoining green fields will only make the problems worse.

The crux of the matter is lack of infrastructure and the difficulty in changing that quickly. This is especially true on the roads. The ring road cannot be widened because of houses already built next to it, or because of narrow bridges over the river, canal and railway; otherwise it would have been done already. The A65, which has already got a bus lane, is going to become increasingly clogged up with traffic going to and from the new shopping complex at Kirkstall Bridge, with the Kirkstall Forge project beginning, and with the proposed link road to the airport. Families who move into the area will need more school places, doctors, dentists and indeed recreational facilities. I have seen no evidence that these are going to be provided or indeed can be provided in time for a substantial increase in the local population.

At the present time local primary and secondary schools are over-subscribed, there is an increase in the school-age population, and a teacher shortage. Nationally and locally it is difficult to get a doctor's appointment in good time and the NHS budget is being squeezed. Finding an NHS dentist is very difficult.

These problems need to be addressed before not after large numbers of new houses are built.

Yours faithfully,

John Petrie.
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