

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE00697\_Site Ref HGX-XX  
**Date:** 05 November 2015 14:12:05

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11 Snaithwood Drive  
Rawdon  
Leeds  
LS19 6SZ

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Site Ref HGX-XX

I write to express my concerns about the proposed planning in and around the area of Rawdon

I oppose the planning on several different levels:

The government states that we need more housing.

I accept that housing is needed across the country (note; government policy is that it should be distributed proportionally across the country yet we seem to have a disproportionate amount of housing for this small area) but the housing is needed else where in Leeds not in Rawdon and where there are brown field sites and in areas where urban regeneration would be beneficial through the recycling of derelict and other urban land. This will ultimately provide those families from less affluent areas of Leeds with the brand new affordable housing that other areas in Leeds are crying out for and be consistent with national policy.

The NPPF states that any planning should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes and recognizing the wider benefits of ecosystems services as well as minimizing impacts on biodiversity. The use of several of the proposed sites in Rawdon is wholly inconsistent with this aspect of national policy.

Based on the Leeds and National Core Strategy which states that the key priorities should include respecting local character and distinctiveness in delivery of the plans objectives and maximising opportunities to **recycle** previously developed land (PDL) whilst minimizing green field and Green Belt release it is clear that not only is the site allocation in Rawdon inconsistent with National

policy, it is also inconsistent with Leeds' own established policy.

Also if the government attaches such importance to Green Belt policy in order to prevent urban sprawl and the fact that the characteristics of Green Belt are their openness and their permanence then the use of such large areas of local Green Belt in this area is inconsistent with this governments' own policy.

Urban sprawl will ultimately result in the merging of adjacent towns, a loss of safeguarded countryside and a loss of the setting and special character of the village of Rawdon. The building on these Green belt sites ignores the purposes of Green Belt areas and therefore is inconsistent with national policy

In its preparation of the site allocation proposal Leeds has completely ignored the most fundamental purpose of Green Belt, to assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land thereby making the whole process inconsistent with the National Planning Policy Framework.

My children (now still only 11 and 13) have grown up enjoying the benefit of living in Rawdon village, a village with its own identity and community. The photos I have attached demonstrate the memories they and I have of their childhood. They will not be the first or (I hope) the last children to enjoy sledging in open fields walking down quiet country roads where the glimpse of a deer or a badger was not unusual. Please don't let the only sightings of these beautiful animals be dead on the road side as we become further enveloped in the madness that is the traffic on the roads around this already congested part of Leeds.

Yours Faithfully

Dr Jonathan Swarbrigg (BchD)

