

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE00802_Leeds Site Allocation Plans
Date: 03 November 2015 14:39:21

Dear Sir,

Re:Leeds Site Allocation Plans

I urge you not to approve plans to build on Green Belt land – I am particularly concerned about the potential development of the following sites:

HG2-41 Fields south of A65, between the Horsforth Roundabout to the crematorium (known locally as Strawberry Fields and its environs)

HG2-42 Fields at Broadway and Calverley Lane, Horsforth

HG2-43 Fields at Horsforth College Campus

HG2-12 Fields at Woodlands Drive, Rawdon

HG3-2, HG3-3 and HG3-4 Fields off A65, Rawdon

My technical objection is that these plans appear inconsistent with National Policy:

- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – “9.89 A local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in Green Belt”

This seems fairly straightforward – as the NPPF also states, “the fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land **permanently open**; the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their **openness and permanence**.” It really couldn’t be more specific or explicit – don’t build on Green Belt.

On a more personal level, I am a keen and regular runner, and naturally most of my training routes are in and around Horsforth. It is more enjoyable, and safer, to run through traffic free areas. Any further development in the Woodland’s Drive area is going to be specifically detrimental to that; but the other developments will add significantly to the local traffic volumes. The existing infrastructure copes inadequately as it is (despite the changes at Horsforth and Rodley roundabouts). Additional traffic will cause drivers to seek alternative routes through quieter areas – this already happens with a ‘rat-run’ through the Victoria’s as drivers seeks to circumvent the queue on the A65 approaching Horsforth roundabout. The air quality from more traffic will inevitably decline, a feature not conducive to good health, let alone running in it.

There is a strong running community in the area, and you can see runners out from dawn until late evening. As well as Horsforth Harriers, runners from Pudsey Pacers, Adel, Kirkstall Harriers and others often venture out this way (in the same way as we run can often end up in those areas). Indeed, Horsforth has a reputation for athletes - witness the gold post box on New Road Side in

celebration of Alistair Brownlee's Olympic Gold. England football international James Milner will have run these roads as a younger man.

It also not beyond the realm of possibility that increased traffic flow around the ring road will adversely affect the wildlife of the nearby Rodley Nature Reserve. This would diminish the local environmental resources, contrary to paragraph 7 of the NPPF.

Thank you for considering my objection,

Yours faithfully

Philip Ramsden

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