

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE01310_PLANNING OBJECTIONS
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To whom it may concern

I am writing to voice my grave concern and anger at Leeds City Council's plans to build homes in North Leeds and in particular sites HG2-12 , HG3-2 , HG3-3 and HG2-41.

I find the council's plans for so many houses along the A65 from Horsforth to Rawdon utterly baffling. Have you ever had to drive in this area ? It is already hugely congested and adding thousands more cars would be irresponsible and dangerous, in terms of road safety and environmentally. Leeds is already consistently in breach of EU air pollution targets set for 2010. We have recently had months and months of roadworks to try and improve congestion - what is the point in doing that only to create another massive influx of traffic. Indeed, the congestion in the area was terrible today - a Sunday.

The proposals represent nothing short of environmental vandalism which will ruin the beautiful landscape. The green open spaces are one of the main reasons that people want to live in this part of Leeds. We do not want to develop the urban sprawl of Manchester, nor do we want to lose our green belt. I believe there has been no detailed green belt review as required under the Core Strategy, even though an inspector recommended one take place.

My particular concern is about plans for 130 houses on HG2-12, which would wreck my local area. It was a late addition and not in the original 'Issues and Options ' document. The field directly adjoins the Cragg Wood conservation area, where local people walk, run, cycle, and ride horses. I personally have spent many happy times walking with my children in the open spaces and we've marvelled at the wildlife, including deer. It is hard to believe that democratically elected councillors want to ruin this. The plans for Knott Lane are of particular concern. This road is already very congested at times, particularly when there is a funeral at Rawdon crematorium. Adding another 130 houses would make it unuseable and also dangerous. I understand the council have given HG 12-2 an appraisal score of -7, which is the worst of all nearby sites. (HG3-2 and HG3-3), yet HG2-12 is allocated while those 2, which adjoin the A65 are safeguarded, for now.

I totally reject the council's target figure of 70 thousand new houses being needed to fulfil its core strategy. This was totally undermined by the government's own ONS estimate that the city needs 45,000 new homes. Councillors rejected these figures without evidence, merely citing predicted economic growth. I do not accept that growth for growth's sake is always a good idea when it has such a negative effect on people already living here.

I also feel that consultation by the council has been poor. Years ago I received a leaflet asking for opinions on various possible sites, but it was not made clear there was a housing 'plan', a target or a deadline and there was no mention of HG2-12 or HG2-41. The only information I have received about the council's recent plans has come through local campaign groups and local press. Nor does there seem to have been much in the way of a strategy for local services to cope with such an increase in population. There is already huge

pressure on school places and local health services do not seem to have been consulted.

To cap it all, I've now just seen the flooding on the fields adjacent to the River Aire at Apperley Bridge, Horsforth, Kirkstall and right into the centre of Leeds. A situation that will be made much worse if thousands more houses are added to the green fields in this part of Leeds.

I urge the council to reconsider these proposals.

Yours faithfully

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