

**From:**  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE01497\_Objections Leeds Site Allocation Plan  
**Date:** 15 November 2015 11:40:01

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**TO: Leeds City Council Planning Department**

**RE: Consultation on Draft Allocation Plan**

I am writing to object to the inclusion of the following sites in the **Leeds Site Allocation Plan**:

HG2-12 Woodlands Drive  
HG2-41 Known as "Strawberry Fields"  
HG2-43 Horsforth Campus  
HG2-44 Clarence Road

**A. Sites HG-12, HG41 and HG2-43**

These sites are all within the Green Belt. Together they halt the sprawl of Leeds/Horsforth into Rawdon and preserve open countryside from encroachment. They are an important part of the wildlife corridor along the Aire Valley into the city. They are crossed by numerous footpaths (public and informal) and tracks from which walkers can access the quiet area of Cragg Wood, the path along the river bank and, ultimately, the towpath of the Leeds-Liverpool canal. I, and many others, hugely value these routes to plan walks of differing lengths and challenges so close to urban Leeds.

I have read the National Planning Policy Framework and it seems to me that building on these sites would breach several requirements in Section 9, specifically: paras 79 (permanency of green belts); 80 (preventing sprawl and encroachment); and 87 (absence of any "very special circumstances" to justify incursions into green belt). It would also be inconsistent with Leeds City's Core Strategy which adopts the NPPF's definition (in para 80) of the purposes of green belts. The Council does not appear to be seriously trying to "minimise greenfield and green belt" releases as stated in para 1.8 of the Core Strategy.

**B. HG2-44 Clarence Road**

It appears that the land allocated for housing here is not simply the vacant plot of land in Clarence Road (against which I have no objection) but also the steep section at the south-western end, running down to Newlay Lane. This is wooded land in the heart of the Newlay Conservation Area containing many mature trees, including beech and oak, and is a conspicuous part of the view into Newlay from Newlay Bridge. Mature trees are

one of the special characteristics for which the conservation area was designated; to destroy a wood in the heart of the area is in conflict with the requirement in NPPF para 126 for local authorities to have regard to “the desirability of new development [in a historic environment] making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.”

Yours faithfully

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