

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE01850_LEEDS SITE ALLOCATION PLANS - FORMAL OBJECTION
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13 November 2015

LEEDS SITE ALLOCATION PLANS - FORMAL OBJECTION

Dear Sirs

I am writing in response to the Leeds Site Allocation Plans and wish to note my objections to the proposed sites:

- * HG2-41 – the fields to the south of the A65 from the Horsforth roundabout to the Rawdon crematorium, including the strawberry fields.
- * HG2-42 – the fields at Broadway and Calverley Lane adjacent to the Horsforth roundabout and Calverley Lane.
- * HG2-43 – the conservation area fields at Park Lane College Campus near to the Horsforth roundabout and cemetery.
- * HG2-12 – the fields to the south of the A65 and adjacent to Woodlands Drive and the Rawdon crematorium.
- * HG2-46 – the site of the former waste water treatment works located to the south of the A65 near to the old Kirkstall Forge.
- * HG3-2, HG3-3 & HG3-4 – the fields to the north and south of the A65 adjacent to Knott Lane and to the rear of Layton Lane in Rawdon

As a resident of Horsforth I am keen to protect the Green Belt, development of such sites will be irreversible and impact on the standard of living for my family and all residents of Horsforth and surrounding areas. My specific objections are:

1. The use of Green Belt site in the local plan is not consistent with national policy. There will be an irreversible impact on the countryside, which will be lost forever. My family enjoy the walks, wildlife and strawberry picking (although this has already been impacted on due to the dangerous level of traffic that flows through the area). There will also be the destruction of the habitat for wildlife and the destruction of natural views.
2. The negative impact on the road network. This area of the ring road is the most congested part of my daily commute and already overburdened and bottlenecked due to an inability to develop a complete dual carriageway over the river, canal and rail bridges. There is also the impact of pollution and the safety issue for pedestrians noted above. Crossing the roads has become very dangerous and walking at the side of the roads feels unsafe as irritated drivers speed from one traffic jam to the next. To avoid the traffic at the A65/A6120 roundabout, the A6120 and Low Lane Roundabout, and the Brownberrie Lane and Station Road roundabout, we are seeing increasing traffic cutting through housing estates, include Hall Lane where there is a children's play area in the park yet no pedestrian crossing. However as a resident I do not necessarily want further traffic calming or control measures such as speed bumps and lane blocking islands to give priority to one side of the road, as these would consistently impact on myself and Horsforth residents. There has already been significant development at Horsforth Vale and Kirkstall Forge. Considering Horsforth is an approximate 7 mile commute into Leeds City Centre the duration of this journey in both directions by car or bus has now become unreasonable. The development at Kirkstall Forge with new traffic control signals will cause further delays when they are operational for Horsforth, Rawdon, Guiseley and other outlying villages. The proposed developments in Horsforth will then add to this. As a resident it seemed incomprehensible that any further development would arise following Horsforth Vale and Kirkstall Forge, particularly on what I assumed was sacred and protected Green Belt. However this then links to point 3.
3. Lack of public awareness. I have no recollection of my opinion being sought or any consultation process taking place. It is disappointing that such a significant issue has been brought to my attention via a campaign to save the Green Belt and having to take the time to write my objections to plans that were inherently flawed.
4. Inconsistency with Leeds Development Plan policies. The aim of developing affordable housing will not be fulfilled. The recent new housing in Horsforth Vale are marketed at above £300,000. Also despite a thriving aging community in Horsforth there is a lack of bungalows. As developers would want to maximise their return there will be no suitable dwellings built. The existing population of Horsforth will increase but as this population ages there will be no opportunities to downsize and the price of existing bungalows will become unaffordable for the majority of residents.
5. Pressure on infrastructure. As a resident I already notice the increased pressure on doctors and the schools. Despite new housing being built already (two examples being Horsforth Vale and on the New Road Side / A65 roundabout) there has been no evidence of extra resources for infrastructure and no plans on developing the infrastructure, something I believe goes against the National Planning Policy Framework. Despite living close to primary schools and the secondary school I have a two year old child I am already concerned about the infrastructures ability to cope and have heard stories about the difficulties families have encountered.
6. Drainage and flooding. The destruction of the natural habitat and replacing land that currently soaks up rainfall with more roads, paving and driveways will increase the flood risk compounded by higher than ever levels of rainfall and the possibility of climate change.
7. I believe there are alternative brownfield sites available in the region that should be prioritised over the Green Belt.
8. I believe the plans for new housing are disproportionate to Horsforth and ultimately part of a stop gap solution to a long term

nationwide issue. England is expected to have a population density of 419 people per square kilometre in 2015, compare to 258 in Wales, 206 in Germany, 105 in France, and 40 in Scotland. It is unsustainable for a limited area of land to continue to see increases in population and housing. However this is a sensitive issue. In the context of housing the idea of building fewer houses would be very detrimental to housebuilders and have a detrimental effect to the fragile recovery and jobs. However both these factors need a national strategy to address as continuing such growth is unsustainable and the pressures it are already being felt at local level as demonstrated by the factors above. Through benchmarking the population density it would suggest England should consider strategies to reduce the population (the relevance being that the increasing population is a major factor driving the need for new homes). However for anyone to make such a suggestion would appear politically incorrect or ludicrous.

Thanks you for taking the time to consider this information. I hope you are able to act on my behalf and reject the proposed developments, and if possible escalate my concerns that are beyond a City Councils remit. I would be grateful if you could keep me informed of opportunities to present my objections to the planning panel, the public examinations, the submission of the plans and potential outcome of the review.

Yours Sincerely

Daniel Haynes

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