

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc: [Wadsworth, Cllr Paul](#); [Latty, Cllr Graham](#); [Latty, Cllr Pat](#)
Subject: PDE01999_Aireborough housing plans and site HG2-10/1221 A65/Gill Lane Greenbelt fields
Date: 12 November 2015 12:43:56

Dear Leeds City Council planners,

I viewed the proposed plans for new housing in Aireborough at the Guiseley Methodist Hall on 23rd September 2015. I found the proposals to be a cause for great concern for the communities of Yeadon, Guiseley and Rawdon and I wish to object to the scale of the new housing developments proposed.

I understand that there is a need for some new housing in the area, but the scale of the proposed new housing in Aireborough is not sustainable. This is an area that has already absorbed a large number of new houses; around 2,400 in the last 10 years.

The effect of housing development over the last ten years in Aireborough has put great pressure on infrastructure, services and green spaces. I am not aware of any impact assessment for the proposed new housing and I do not consider the plans to be sound.

Infrastructure and services

Roads in Aireborough (especially the A65) are very congested. During peak hours there is serious congestion along much of the A65 in the Yeadon and Guiseley. A traffic survey conducted by developers during a school half term does not reflect the true nature of the problem with traffic on the A65 in Guiseley and Yeadon. Any additional housing will only exacerbate the problem with traffic. As for schools, doctors and dentists these are already at capacity and would not be able to absorb the numbers of people associated with a large new house building programme.

Greenspaces and Greenbelt

I feel that it is vital to preserve greenspaces within and around towns/communities for the well-being of the population. Further housing developments in the Aireborough area would erode the few remaining rural sites which act to prevent the merging of communities e.g. between Guiseley, Henshaw and Nether Yeadon. This principle applies equally to other communities in Leeds and Bradford. It is also important to protect the Greenbelt between Leeds and Bradford to prevent urban sprawl. It would be to the detriment of both cities and their populations if new housing development led a merging of the two cities of Leeds and Bradford any further than has already taken place.

Greenspaces are important for both the physical and mental well-being of communities. Many people (myself included) have chosen to live in an area where there is easy access to greenspaces. This has always been important to me. But if the remaining greenspaces or Greenbelt in Aireborough are sacrificed to new housing developments the whole reason for living in this area will be lost. Had I wanted to live in an urban area I would have chosen to live in the city centre of Leeds or Bradford.

I believe that brown-field sites exist within Leeds which could be developed for housing rather than sacrificing green-field sites. Once these greenspaces are developed they are lost forever. Is it the case that house builders prefer green-field sites because they are much easier and cheaper to develop than brown-field sites? It is my view that Councils should not allow green-fields to be used where there are alternatives. Leeds City Council should be protecting the Greenbelt so that Leeds continues to be an attractive place to work and live.

Nether Yeadon Conservation Area

Sites adjacent to this new and important Conservation Area should be protected. Any inappropriate development here could adversely affect the area's special character and appearance. The Conservation Area was recently established because of its historic and architectural importance. It does not seem logical to propose a large housing development at the edge of an important Conservation Area.

HG2-10/Site 1221

This is just one of the Greenbelt sites that it is important for Leeds City Council to protect. There are, I believe, several reasons why this Greenbelt site is important to protect. The site is adjacent to the Nether Yeadon Conservation Area which has listed buildings of historic importance. The site has many mature and rare English trees and is a wildlife habitat. New housing on this site would lead to the loss of habitats and wildlife. Development here would lead to a merging of Nether Yeadon with Henshaw and Guiseley, further urbanisation of the area and loss of its semi-rural character. Any development here could adversely impact upon the Nether Yeadon Conservation Area. I am not aware of an impact assessment for this site and therefore do not consider the plan for site 1221 to be sound.

I hope that at the end of the Consultation period the Council will reconsider its plans for new housing in Aireborough. The current proposals are not sustainable and development on the scale proposed would be to the detriment of communities in Aireborough and Leeds.

Yours sincerely,

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