

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc: [Stuart Andrew.MP](#)
Subject: PDE02061_Objection to planning sites in Rawdon HG2-12, HG2-41, HG3-2, HG3-3, HG3-4
Date: 11 November 2015 21:24:10

Mark Beaumont
4 Benton Park Crescent
Rawdon
Leeds LS19 6NA

I am writing to object to the new build housing planned for the above sites.

Firstly, all these sites are on green belt land and are grade 3 farmland. As a lifelong resident of Leeds, I feel these sites are important natural areas must be protected for future generations. The Leeds country way also passes through site HG2-12 and alongside HG3-2 & HG3-3, rare species of frogs, bees, newt and bats are present on all these sites. Has an ecology report/greenbelt review been undertaken for these sites? Apparently there was a consultation in 2013, but I was not informed of these plans. Has the government's revised 'new homes' target of 45000 homes been taken into account? The councils total new housing scheme is for 70000 homes? There is no need to build on green belt land, this land has been designated as 'Strategic Green Infrastructure Area' by the council itself. Green belt land has recently been used near Leeds & Bradford airport to build a public house? How many stand empty in Leeds? Is this an 'exceptional circumstance? I would deem not.

The transport links to these sites, especially the A65 are already not fit for purpose and adding a further 2000 houses will create gridlock. The A65 is one the most congested roads in Leeds. There is no train station which serves Rawdon and any tram or trolley bus schemes planned for Leeds have been shelved. Recent 'improvements' to Horsforth roundabout have made actually traffic congestion worse than before. Highways access to HG2-12, HG3-2 & HG3-3 is also very limited.

Local primary & high schools are already oversubscribed. One additional primary school planned for these 2000 homes seems ridiculous. Where are all the additional children going to attend school?

Many 'brown field' sites around Leeds already stand abandoned, dangerous and an eyesore. I feel the council is giving the developers an easy route to generate additional council tax revenue. The former finishers and dyers factory on Green Lane in Rawdon stands vandalised and abandoned, this site already has existing properties adjoining on the roadside which are boarded up. Wouldn't a better option be to redevelop this site into housing/apartments rather than build on green belt land. Sites in and around the city centre also stand empty, for example the former Evening Post building and the derelict building opposite, and the former Arla foods site on Kirkstall road to name a few. This council seems to make rash decisions without proper thought or consultation, for example announcing the doubling the flights from Leeds/Bradford airport? How this can this be achieved with the transport infrastructure being totally inadequate and the additional homes planned as above? A sizable investment from the government would be required from the government for any such a scheme to be viable.

I would state growth is not an 'exceptional circumstance' and is not in accordance with NPPF.

The actions of this council will change Leeds forever for our children. This generation must not take the countryside and wildlife of Leeds from future generations .

Regards

Mark Beaumont