

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE02537_LDF Publication Draft Consultation
Date: 16 November 2015 16:44:17

Dear Sir

I write to express my opposition to the proposal to build extra housing in and around the Rawdon area.

As someone who has spent most of his life as a Rawdon resident, I feel that there is a responsibility to try and preserve the identity of the village, especially in terms of the local environment. The proposals I have seen, referred to as HG2-12, HG3-2, HG3-3, HG3-4, HG2-41, HG2-43, will effectively serve to 'box-in' Rawdon and merge Rawdon with Horsforth, and in so doing remove the feeling of being a separate village; we will simply be absorbed into a greater suburb of Leeds.

The proposal to include these Green Belt sites in the local plan is not consistent with the national policy. There are plenty of Brownfield sites within the Leeds area which could be used for housing; it cannot be justified to destroy Green Belt land.

My understanding is that the proposal to use this Strategic Green Infrastructure also goes against the Leeds Core Strategy.

As a family of four with two dogs we enjoy walks all around Rawdon, often through and around the areas that you propose to build upon. This provides welcome exercise and contact with nature. Only last week we walked from our house on Markham Avenue, down past the golf club through the wood and eventually to the river, and our children thoroughly enjoyed the sights and sounds of the fields and the river bank. The return walk up Knott Lane was equally enjoyable.

These are walks that my wife and I took as children, we regularly take our own children there now and we would dearly like to think that our grandchildren would have the opportunity to explore and enjoy this area without it being converted to concrete, bricks and mortar. If we wanted to see that we would travel to Leeds.

The resultant increase in population would increase pressure on school places amongst other things. It is almost impossible to book a doctor's appointment for less than several days' notice as it is; the increased population would put ever more strain on such services to the detriment of those already living in the

village.

I implore you, on behalf of myself and my family and the many other Rawdon families and future generations, NOT to ruin our local environment by building on our green spaces. As a nation we are increasingly encouraged to exercise more; in Rawdon we currently have a wonderful and diverse green area that can be enjoyed by all – and it would be irresponsible to take it away.

Yours faithfully

Graham Wright

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Rawdon