

From:
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Subject: PDE02604_POTENTIAL GREEN BELT DEVELOPMENT IN HORSFORTH.
Date: 16 November 2015 16:30:26

Dear Sir/Madam

I read with horror the sites you are trying to allocate for house building in and around Horsforth.

I have read part of your National Planning Policy Framework referring to Protecting Green Belt Land and I cannot comprehend why you are choosing green belt for house building. Yes, it is obvious that we need thousands of new houses in Britain but there are so many brownfield sites which must be available. It is quite clear that you think you can take the easy way out and try and build on green field sites instead of the more laborious route and no doubt the more expensive route of developing brown field sites.

Surely it is in the Government's interest to clean up brownfield sites, whereby it would sort out two objectives, clearing up land and then building houses. In other words, clear up a mess, rather than create another mess. This route is obviously more costly and time consuming, but at the end of the day, much more effective and efficient. 'Green belt serves to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict land and other urban land', so why aren't you prepared to do this?

How you can try and go against the NPPF so drastically is beyond belief. What is the point of creating this 'Framework' no doubt costing a huge amount of money to create, to do exactly the opposite. What gives you the right?

Horsforth is an HISTORIC TOWN and therefore should be treated as such and not to assist in 'neighbouring towns to merge into one another'.

You state that 'as with previous Green Belt policy, inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances'. This is a blatant attempt at ignoring this statement in your Framework - how can hundreds of houses proposed to be built on green belt land be VERY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES? It degrades the very words!

I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT NOT ONLY IS THE SITE ALLOCATION INCONSISTENT WITH NATIONAL POLICY, IT IS ALSO INCONSISTENT WITH LEEDS' OWN ESTABLISHED POLICY.

P. Wicking.