

**From:**  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE02607\_Re: Objection to redesignation of HG2-12  
**Date:** 16 November 2015 16:29:12

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LDF Publication Draft Consultation, Forward Planning & Implementation, Leonardo Building,  
2 Rossington Street,

Leeds LS2 8HD

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

RE: LSAP - FORMAL OBJECTION DURING PUBLIC CONSULTATION

I wish to object to the reclassification of site HG2-12 as other than Green Belt.

In so far that redesignation increases the possibility of use for building the following is pertinent.

It is apparent that housing and building development along the south side of the A65 between the Leeds ring road roundabout and New Roadside, Rawdon, is very light and does not represent dense housing or industrial development. That allows full, if intermittent, appreciation of the Aire Valley from both directions for traffic on the A65 and limits traffic congestion from the south side of the A65. The view from the Calverley side of the Aire is similarly open and uncongested. The opportunity to see an open approach to Leeds for visitors from the airport and the West is unrivalled in northern cities of the size of Leeds.

Traffic congestion on the A65 is considerable, not only at rush hours, and further traffic in the approach roads is undesirable. That is especially the case when traffic in Knott Lane from the Crematorium is considered, which is often obstructed currently, even allowing for traffic lights distal to the Lane exit. Additional vehicles from housing development on HG2-12 are likely to make that exit extremely slow and difficult for crematorium traffic and the bereaved.

The perspectives of Cragg Wood and the Aire Valley from HG2-12 are simply unrivalled and nominated countryway paths run alongside the designated area. The huge housing development on the previous Clariant site is very likely to generate much more pedestrian and cycle traffic in Knott Lane to take advantage of this panorama. The continuity of the site with Cragg Wood offers a rural perspective that will be seriously damaged by housing development. The green amenity of Cragg Wood is significantly enhanced by the openness of the site and will be badly damaged by in-fill housing development. There is evidence of developer interest in extending the site to the west, which would further damage the Leeds road gateway element of the southern vista provided by the current A65.

In summary, HG2-12 provides an excellent Green Belt functionality, whatever its immediate connections, and its maintenance is an important element in maintaining an open and refreshing amenity in this part of the Aire valley. Housing development will destroy this Leeds amenity value and provide the basis for further erosion of this aspect of the Aire valley. The Cragg Wood estate is embellished by surrounding open land and provides an only too sparse Leeds amenity on the west side of the grand conurbation. The poverty of open land in Leeds West is apparent in comparison with the East and North, so

that any erosion of core space of this kind should be avoided.

I am unaware that there has been any **local consultation** about the redesignation of HG2-12.

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E J Will FRCP

1 Wellroyd, Knott Lane, Rawdon, LS19 6JW.