

From: [Susan Ponsford](#)
To: [Site Allocations Plan](#)
Cc: [Susan Ponsford](#)
Subject: PDE02707_OBJECTION TO BUILDING SITE REFERENCE 1255B HG2-3
Date: 16 November 2015 16:02:24
Importance: High

To who it may concern

I am writing to you as a resident, family member of family including elderly parents and young children, concerned member of the area and someone who works in the construction industry.

I wish to log my concerns on the following points against the development of housing in the Yeadon/Guiseley/Rawdon/Horthforth area etc under 1255B HG2-3.

Traffic

Traffic is already a massive issue in the area, over the past 30 years of living in the area modification have been made to traffic signaling, round about, one ways systems etc and although this may have been to assist with managing the traffic no consideration has been made to the actual road network which was in existence long before I moved to the area and has been at maximum capacity for as long as I can remember. During rush hour traffic it can take some times up to 3 hours for the commit from Yeadon to Leeds to the M1. This is due to volume of traffic in a growing area, no development of the roads or alterative road solutions. By increasing housing in the are this will only get worse. The current road network is not fit for purpose now let alone with the addition of additional people to the area.

I would like to say this is only an issue at rush hour but the problem has increased over the past 5 years and effects the area at all times as people work flexible hours or need to travel further for employment and family.

There are I would admit other options to the car as in the bus or train. However the bus still needs to travel in the same traffic and congested roads and is on more occasions than not late. The public transport via bus has not improved again to meet the growing needs of the area. Frequency and location has not changed. The bus is not always a valid option as more and more people are needing to travel further for work and do not have the time to site in traffic. The bus routes are not always flexible and in poor weather the service can not be relied on for work, school or generally getting around the area especial if you are elderly or have young children.

The train system again has not improved and often only two carriages turn up in the morning which are already over crowded by the time they get to Guiseley. This is not only unsafe but also not fit for purpose. I personally fear the day there is an accident with the train being so full. In poor weather conditions we are lucky if the train runs at all again putting more pressure on the local bus's and roads.

In general the road and public transport network is not fit for purpose with the current occupation levels without increasing the problem.

Locally where there are schools there is no parking and accidents and congested roads due to parents parking is an ever increasing issue. There are no controls or patrols of the parking around schools. It is an accident waiting to happen.

Schools

The area has recently invested in modifying their schools to infant and primary schools and done a very good job. However these schools are already full with the current occupants of the area and already planning for expansion. Brining in additional children to the area will put more pressure on the school, increased numbers in class which will impact learning and time spent with the teach. Worse case the schools will need to go through more growth and increaser building or send children out of the area to schools. This will again impact the child's education, friend circles and pressure on parents trying to juggle school and work. Again this will put pressure on the road networks. How do Leeds plan on managing our education!!!

Local business

I do not disagree that increasing the housing will assist the local business in the area, but has this already been reviewed. To cope with increased housing levels we will require more parking, supermarkets, longer hours of trading, food deliveries via online shopping. The area is already at it's maximum capacity and at seasonal times of year or holidays already struggles to cope. What plans have been put in place to look at how the area will actually operate. If we are to expand the area as a whole needs to be revised and they need to become small towns with better shopping facilities not only for food but retail and entertainment to keep the kids off the streets and adults. There is nothing locally in the terms of cinema or bowling. Let alone food outlets or a small shopping mall. The bigger picture needs to be considered.

Has anyone actually asked the residents what is needed and if the plan was to go ahead how can it be made an easier journey for the local resident.

Local area

I personally loved growing up with green fields at the back of our family house. Somewhere to play in the summer and take the sledge with my brothers and parents in the snow. I have often raved on about the area I live to friends and family. This will all change. I will no longer be able to wake up to fiends and open clean fresh air as it will all be match box houses with high fences. The beauty of the area is why most people move to the area or have chosen to stay. If they wished to live in built up area they would move. There is amazing local nature, wild life, views and general well being in the area. We have a number of bats in our area.

If I have ever been away from home the views are the one thing I see when driving home that make me think I am home.

In most of the areas planning for building there are massive flooding issues and natural water sources. I have concerns how this will be managed and where the water will be routed too. Will existing properties start to suffer flooding issues due to over population of the area.

Having spoken to many people locally and seen all the work on social media I don't know of anyone that is actually in support of the planning building other than those selling land. I would have also thought there must be some cover on the land with the council that the land must have been retained for green belt or farming etc. At what costs is the council happy to release the land not only financially but also for the good of the area and people living in the area. What is in it for the council? What is the benefit to those already living in the area? At what costs will this go ahead? What are the council willing to put forward to assist the community as it is felt there has been no support for the area only the people who are likely to line their pockets from this development.

As you can imagine this is at the heart of many people who not only live in the area but have family and friends in the area or fond memories of growing up in the area.

Thank you for reading mine and many others letters. Please consider if this was your back garden or your local area how would you feel.

Yours Susan Ponsford