

**From:** [Eric Lee](#)  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE02884\_Planning objections - Horsforth HG2-41, HG2-42 and HG2-43  
**Date:** 16 November 2015 14:48:01

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Southland House  
1B West End lane  
Horsforth  
Leeds  
LS18 5JP

Date: 14th November 2015

LDF Publication Draft Consultation,  
Forward Planning & Implementation,  
Leonardo Building,  
2 Rossington Street,  
Leeds  
LS2 8HD

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: planning objections to sites :

HG2-41 Fields South of A65, Horsforth Roundabout to the Crematorium  
HG2-42 Fields at Broadway and Calverley Lane, Horsforth  
HG2-43 Fields at Horsforth College Campus

I am writing to register my objections for the above planning proposals.

My family and I live close to the above sites and if they are developed, will have a huge, negative impact on our daily life and those of the rest of our community and I believe they should be excluded from the plans. My specific objections are as follows:

Inconsistent with National Planning Policy Framework:

I find it hard to believe that there are no other sites which can be developed before we start on green belt. The reason that Horsforth is such a fantastic place to live is because of the beautiful surroundings and the feeling that you are close to the countryside. Surely this has to have a positive impact on our children and the way they grow up? There are many disused office buildings and brown field sites around Horsforth and Leeds. The greenbelt allocated for housing has also been selected in favour of all of the other available brown field land from across the region, which is yet to be included in the site allocation plan.

Please can these be developed before we start to destroy trees and fields and the opportunity for our children to grow up in a beautiful area.

I believe that green belt can only be built on in the case of exceptional circumstances. Surely planned housing expansion is not an exceptional circumstance but rather something which is a continuing plan. This is also emphasised by the lack of clarity in the figures that we have been provided. If

we are not 100% sure that we need 66,000 houses then surely it is better not to plan on building so many, especially considering the destruction that it will cause. The latest figures show we need 44,000 houses so why is the council planning to build 66,000? In order to prevent the unnecessary permanent destruction of greenbelt, the current plan to re-assess the housing target needs to be put in place before the site allocation plans are progressed, and not after them as currently planned.

The beauty of North Leeds and the separate communities we have are part of what makes this area so attractive, please don't let it become urban sprawl and lose our green space forever. The above sites are host to crested newts, different species of bats, owls, hawks, wild deer, badgers and a huge array of wildlife that will perish as a result of the proposed development. While there may be token provision allocated for selected species, the majority are not even noted or recognised in the inadequate environmental impact assessments which have been conducted to date. The above sites provide a continuous chain of greenbelt along the River Aire Valley, which allows the wildlife migratory and residential access across the region. The destruction of these greenbelt sites will lead to their isolation as they will be boxed in by buildings and I'll no doubt lead to them leaving this area for good and we again lose the opportunity for ourselves and our children to be in touch with nature.

The A65 is currently incredibly busy and it takes a very long time to travel into Leeds, or elsewhere. If these houses are built it will be even worse and have a huge impact on the commutes and daily lives for people living in Horsforth, Rawdon and further up the A65.. Therefore the ability of these sites to accommodate over 1,000 extra houses must be limited in line with the ability to deliver proper infrastructure to serve them.

I understand there are plans for a further school, however, until that happened there would be a huge impact on local schools, West End, Featherbank and Newlaithesirlds in particular. Myself and other Horsforth residents have paid the premium to live here so that our children can go to small schools. My own children attend West End and this would undoubtedly change and lose the small friendly atmosphere it has now.. There would also be impact on Horsforth High school which would also have to expand.

I believe one of the aims is to provide affordable housing, however, the developers will no doubt wanting to achieve the highest prices they can and will unlikely to be first time buyer prices. If the aim is to tick the box for affordable housing with a small percentage of them, then surely this need can be met in a better way. For example urban regeneration, developing brown field sites.

Site HG2-41 (4240) is used both as working agricultural land and also as Pick Your Own fruit fields. During the fruit picking season, the fields provide thousands of people from the local community with a meaningful way to connect with the natural environment. Literally hundreds of families, many with small children arrive each week to pick their own strawberries and raspberries amongst the butterflies.

There will be a severe negative impact on the landscape and the distinctive views of the Aire Valley. Please don't let this be ruined by building until we have take advantage of all brown field sites and completed full urban regeneration.

Myself and my family of three children benefit every day from the open and

green environment in which we live. The school they attend (West End) has lots of green space for running around and playing sports, we regularly walk and run in the countryside and all of this contributes to us being a healthy family. Please don't let this change.

On these and other grounds, we sincerely hope that you are able to act on our behalf and reject the progression of these greenbelt sites within the development proposals.

Please keep me informed of the public examinations, submission of the plans and potential outcome of the review.

Yours faithfully,

Eric Lee (by email)