

**From:** [caroline shoard](#)  
**To:** [Site Allocations Plan](#)  
**Subject:** PDE03192\_Aire Valley Leeds Area Action Plan  
**Date:** 16 November 2015 00:54:16

---

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write to disagree with the proposed use of the sites in Rawdon :

HG2-12 Woodlands Drive  
HG3 - 2 Land to West of Knott Lane  
HG3 - 3 Knott Lane East  
HG3 - 4 Layton Lane  
HG2 - 41 South of A65

Developing these Green Belt sites will destroy the ecology, landscape and wildlife of this unique area. It will damage the character of this historic village and will take much appreciated open space and countryside from local people.

- I do not consider the Council's plan to be sound:

Development Not Justified - I believe the plans for these sites are inappropriate as they will destroy the landscape and rural character of Rawdon village. These are Green Belt sites and should be protected, they are home to a large variety of wildlife including bats, Red Kites, wild deer and Sparrow Hawks, protected mature trees and a native bluebell wood. This is a UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitat and must be protected.

The Greenbelt here is not scrubland or unused fields, it is farmed agricultural land with ancient woods and hedgerows. Rawdon's several farms are major employers in the village, which has a long farming history and this is a vital part of the character of the village and must be maintained.

These sites also serve to separate the village of Rawdon from the town of Horsforth, these Greenbelt areas define Rawdon and preserve it as a distinct green and characterful village from the growing urban extension of Horsforth.

Leeds has very few areas of green space and countryside, the woods and fields of Rawdon are greatly appreciated by residents for walking, cycling and running. They also serve to separate Leeds and Bradford, preventing urban sprawl.

The A65 is already full and over capacity, it simply cannot cope with the additional traffic that housing developments would bring. My journey to work always involves queuing in traffic through Rawdon to the roundabout at Horsforth. To cover this short distance takes 30 minutes. I cannot stress enough how bad the traffic situation currently is, the installation of traffic lights at the Horsforth roundabout has not eased this. This road simply cannot cope with 400 + vehicles that housing developments would bring. Airedale Air-conditioning Factory employee traffic also needs to be taken into account in this area. Public transport is not an alternative in this area as buses are also stuck in traffic and the nearest train station is a car journey away. I am also concerned about the resulting additional pollution and the health issues that this will cause residents.

Potential alternatives have been overlooked, Brownfield sites are available across Leeds. LCC Core Strategy itself says that all these must be developed before Greenbelt land. Developing Brownfield sites would improve and regenerate these areas.

The council has not revised its housing target in response to the revised ONS projections which would mean the city needs 45,000 and not the current target of 70,000 on which the council has based its core strategy. A reduction in target of 15,000 would remove the need to take any land out of Greenbelt.

- How to make the plan sound : The Council should review its plan in the light of the need to conduct a comprehensive Greenbelt review and the prospect of new projects such as the Airport Link Road, that haven't been considered when deciding where to allocate housing.

Development Not Legally Compliant :

There was no consultation on the site HG1-12 prior to it being allocated to housing in Site Allocations Plan.

HG2-12 was not included in Issues and Options Consultation in June. This is not compliant with the Statement of Community Involvement.

I feel that I have not been properly consulted on the sites under consideration. I do not believe that the council has made me aware or consulted me about the proposed sites. I did not know about the issues and options stage of the consultation in June / July 2015.

Please keep me updated about the progress of the Site Allocation Plan.

Yours sincerely,  
Caroline Shoard

Windrush,  
New York Lane,  
Rawdon  
LS19 6JQ