

PD400165

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT			
To	Action	Info	File
8 OCT 2015			
File Number			

2 Underwood Cottages  
 Underwood Drive  
 Rawdon, Leeds  
 LS19 6LA  
 25/10/2015

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to register my objection to certain of the proposed housing developments which are currently out to consultation.

The sites on which I object to development are;

**HG2-12 Fields at Woodlands Drive, Rawdon**

**HG3 – 2, HG3-3, HG3 – 4; Fields off A65, Rawdon**

**HG2 – 41 Fields South of A65, Horsforth Roundabout to the Crematorium**

**HG2-43 Fields at Horsforth College Campus.**

Whilst I am strongly in favour in developing additional housing supply to meet the needs of (especially) the younger end of the growing population, this should absolutely not be at the expense of breaking both National, and Local policy, by developing on Green Belt sites. The NPPF states that "Once established, Green Belt boundaries should only be altered in exceptional circumstances". There is no way in which the current position can be said to be an exceptional circumstance, so **the development is not in accordance with the NPPF.**

The greenbelt exists (inter alia) to prevent urban sprawl, and to provide natural corridors for wildlife. The proposed developments would effectively merge Rawdon and Horsforth, and would adversely affect wildlife, which in this area includes wild deer, tawny owls, badgers, stoats, Red Kite and Sparrowhawks. As such, **the development is not justified.**

A further concern is the effect that a large number of additional houses would have on the already appalling traffic situation on the A65, north of the ring road, and on the ring-road itself. The recent "Improvements" to the roundabouts have made no improvement whatsoever to the traffic flows – on certain days, the traffic jam appears worse than before - on a couple of occasions recently, (with no hold ups from accidents, incidents or road-works, the queue of traffic heading down south on the A65 to the roundabout reached all the way up to Knott Lane (almost 1 miie) before 7.00am. **The development is not effective.**

Whilst I object to any development on the above sites, the proposed development at **HG2-12 Fields at Woodlands Drive, Rawdon**, does seem to be the most egregious of all the 4 sites mentioned above. I am given to understand that this site has had assessments done, which give it particularly low scores on sustainability, and negative effect on greenbelt amenity. It really beggars belief that a Council which prides itself on being green could consider it in any way appropriate to develop on this site, in particular.

I hope that the council will change its mind regarding any development on the above sites.

Yours Sincerely,

Stephan Brown