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Horsforth  
Leeds  
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Forward Planning and Consultation  
Leonardo Building  
2 Rossington Street  
Leeds  
LS2 8HD

To Whom It May Concern:

**My Objections to Proposals to Build on Green Belt Sites  
Around Horsforth**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have recently viewed the Leeds Site Allocation Plans. I am responding to the proposals put forward in these plans.

I strongly object to the current proposals to build houses on green belt sites around Horsforth. The following sites cause me particular concern:-

- HG2-41 – The fields south of the A65 between Horsforth roundabout and the crematorium; popularly known in the area as the strawberry fields.
- HG2-42 – The fields at Broadway and Calverley Lane Horsforth.
- HG2-43 – the fields at Horsforth College Campus.
- HG2-12 – the fields at Woodlands Drive, Rawdon.
- HG3-2, HG3-3 and HG3-4 – the fields to the north and south of the A65 in Rawdon.

These sites should be preserved as they are - Green Belt sites. The core purposes of designating Green Belt land are set out clearly in the Government's National Planning Policy Framework. Green Belt land serves the following five purposes: -

1. to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
2. to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;
3. to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
4. to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
5. to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

Three further points are made by the NPPF:-

- A. The importance of Green Belts. The fundamental aim of the Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence;
- B. Green Belt boundaries should only be altered in EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES; and
- C. Inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances.

These proposed developments will affect me and my family directly and will undermine their health and well being in the following ways:-

- We have enjoyed picking strawberries in fields near to our home. My three children appreciate the experience of walking through and enjoying the green open countryside. The proposed building on these Green belt sites would deny them this opportunity for ever.
- My family is able to enjoy and appreciate wildlife and farming life easily by walking a short distance from our home. We enjoy the peace and solitude we can experience by walking a short distance from our home. My children enjoy watching the horses, seeing the cows being taken in for milking and spotting wild creatures in and around our community. These experiences will be terminated for them – and for future generations – if these proposed developments go ahead.
- There are already pressures on the infrastructure in Horsforth – schools, roads, doctors’ surgeries and access for example. These proposed developments will only increase these pressures and impact negatively on the quality of life for me and my family.

Finally, I was born in and brought up in Horsforth. I chose to live here when I got married and stayed here for the benefit of my growing family. These proposed developments would seriously diminish the characteristics of Horsforth for me, my family and for its future community. Horsforth would become another part of the urban sprawl of Leeds.

I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on these unacceptable proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Kirstie Smith