

PD400376

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

1. J. Willoughby
59 Hunger Hills Drive,
Horsforth,
Leeds, LS18 5JU
29/10/2015.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT			
To	Action	Info	File
- 4 NOV 2015			
File Number			

Dear Sir,

I am writing in opposition to the allocation for development of sites in Horsforth and surrounding area. The sites I object to in particular are HG2-12, -37, -41, -42, -43, -46 and HG3-2, -3, -4.

I have regularly walked the footpaths which cross or follow the perimeter of many of these fields for many years and the prospect of the loss of natural landscapes, green fields and trees is horrifying. It is well documented that we all benefit in terms of both mental and physical well being from regular contact with environments such as the sites in question. The land also holds valuable wildlife in terms of botany, small mammals, birds and insects. These green sites provide an essential landscape linking other areas of biodiversity in and beyond the Aire valley and surrounding countryside. Besides having an obligation to protect these sites for future generations they make a valuable contribution to the economy of ~~both~~ both the local and

national communities.

It is offensive to think that these sites could be lost to concrete and tarmac to the detriment of people, the economy and wildlife. Once gone, the damage can never be reversed.

National planning policies recognise the need to permanently protect Green Belt for these and other reasons. To allocate Green Belt sites for development is clearly contrary to national policy particularly on the scale proposed. The allocation should be opposed.

North West Leeds has contributed many sites for development in recent years including Clariome, Kirkstall Forge and other sites along the A65 to High Lodge at Meusdon. There are other brown field sites throughout Leeds and there are no exceptional circumstances which justify the development of green sites on such a scale.

The planned development is therefore unjustified by reference to both national and local planning policies. Leeds City Council itself acknowledges that development should be on previously developed land rather than on Green Belt or greenfield sites.

Leeds City Council's target of 70,000 new houses by 2028 is fundamentally flawed and is no justification for developing

any of the sites to which I object.

I urge rejection of the proposed allocation of these sites for development.

Yours faithfully

I. J. WILLOUGHBY.