

PDH00531

12 Autumn Crescent,
Horsforth, Leeds,
LS18 4 HT.

4 November 2015

Dear Mr Feeney,
LEEDS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LOCAL PLAN), SITE ALLOCATIONS PLAN
AND AIRE VALLEY LEEDS AREA ACTION PLAN - PUBLICATION DRAFTS.

I refer to your letter dated 16 September, 2015 and hereby submit my views about the soundness of the plans.

SITE HG2 - 41 Fields south of A65 from Horsforth roundabout - Broadway/A65 to Rawdon Crematorium

This is an area I am very familiar with. It includes Bar Lane - an ancient tree lined route and just north of the Red Beck collages is a path leading, via a wood adjacent to the boundary of the Rawdon Crematorium, to the A65. I walk through this area with the Horsforth Walking Group and with my daughter, husband and grandchildren. I strongly object to any development on this beautiful green belt which is so accessible from Leeds and in particular, Horsforth. The destruction of wildlife habitats - trees, hedges and fields would be a tragedy. The strawberry fields visited by hundreds of families enjoying the countryside would be lost forever. The view from the A65 towards the river Aire and across to the hills beyond is stunning. A mass of housing blocking this view would be totally unacceptable especially for the occupants on the north side of the A65.

This site is green belt and has been identified as such within the Leeds Core Strategy as Strategic Green Infrastructure.

SITE HG2 - 12 Woodlands Drive Rawdon.
Another greenfield I pass regularly with the Horsforth Walking Group. This site is in green belt and has been identified as such within the Leeds Core Strategy as Strategic Green Infrastructure. I object to any development on this greenspace as it would result in a sprawl of houses from the Horsforth roundabout to Rawdon (excluding Rawdon Crematorium, of course).

SITES HG3 - 2 } These sites are all in green belt and are shown as Strategic Green Infrastructure
HG3 - 3 } in the Leeds Core Strategy. The use of these green spaces would add to the
HG3 - 4 } sprawl of housing linking Rawdon to Horsforth.

SITE HG2 - 42 Broadway and Calverley Lane.
This site is in Green belt and should be preserved.

SITE HG2 - 43 Horsforth Campus
Although planning consent has been granted for 66 houses to be built on the area occupied by the college building, I object to a further 140 homes being built on green belt. Part of this green belt is listed in the college prospectus as a nature reserve.

SITE HG2 - 45 Formerly St Joseph's nursing home.
I very much doubt if 30 homes can be built on this site without encroaching onto the grassed (greenfield) area and destroying the mature trees.

SITE HG2 - 37 Brownherrie Lane - part of the Plymouth Brethren site.

This is a greenfield site and not for building on.

SITE HG2 - 46 Former waste water treatment works.

This is a greenfield site and should be preserved.

I would also like to make the following comments:

1. The housing target appears to be flawed by a gross estimation of requirement. It needs to be reassessed and brought in line with the latest predictions from the Office of National Statistics.
2. The absence of affordable housing will not be remedied by building homes on green belt in semi-rural areas. Houses in the vicinity of the sites mentioned earlier in my letter are selling for £325,000+. Therefore the renewal of brownfield sites in areas in need of urban regeneration and investment should be the priority.
3. The intersection of Broadway and the A65 has recently been improved. Adding yet more traffic from new homes using this intersection will result in more congestion.

In conclusion I reiterate that green belt and green spaces must be preserved for future generations.

Yours sincerely

ROBERT HALE