

PDH60782

MR + MRS D. PIERCE
8 NEWLAITHES ROAD,
HORSFORTH, LEEDS LS18 4LG

Dear Sirs,

RE. Planning Applications for housing sites in or near Horsforth and surrounding areas and along the A65 Road and the Outer Ring Road.

SITE NO'S: HG3-2, HG3-3, HG3-4;
HG2-37, HG2-12, HG2-41, HG2-44
HG2-45, HG2-46, HG2-43

I wish to object to the above applications as these are a vast number of houses being imposed on a small community. The plans to build them mostly on green belt sites with no attempt to use brown field areas goes against much of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Leeds Core Strategy. These documents stress the need for preventing unrestricted "urban sprawl" by retaining green belt and keeping it "permanently open" or "largely undeveloped".

We are very lucky in Horsforth to have greenery, woodland, water i.e. canal & River Aire and a wide variety of native plants and wild life living very close to us and these are very precious to our community and future generations. Once the green belt is lost to concrete and tarmac these valuable sites of peace, pleasure, atmosphere, exercise and variety of habitats can never be replaced. The chance for our children and grandchildren to see rabbits, squirrels, foxes, and even deer - in Bramley Fall Woods and along the canal - will disappear for ever, and our lives will be the worse for their loss.

Each and every local Councillor should have the knowledge contained in the NPPF and LCS documents and should make every effort to support them by using brown field sites first.

This will have a two-fold effect of:

- 1) removing old, broken-down buildings and neglected areas
- 2) giving bright, clean buildings and gardens/open spaces that will be a credit to the surrounding communities - not a "blot" on the landscape.

Leeds City Council should also be able to estimate the number of people requiring housing by looking at the more recent statistics from the 2011 census. LCC could then adjust their local Plan for Horsforth and "respond flexibly to changing circumstances" in our area.

Horsforth residents realise there must be homes built for a growing population but not at the cost of green belt land. This option would be far easier for the large housing developers - they would just knock a field wall down and start digging foundations. Use up the brown field sites as a matter of priority and make the housing developers respect our "green and pleasant land"; not use it as "a hit and run" opportunity to make millions of pounds in profits and then dash off to their next "victims".

We want the best for our residents and our future neighbours with a large village we can all be proud of.

Yours faithfully