

LDF Publication Draft Consultation
Forward Planning & Implementation
Leeds City Council
Leonardo Building
2 Rossington Street
Leeds
LS2 8HB

10/11/2015

Dear Leeds City Council

In reference to the proposed housing development site **HG2-173**

I strongly object to the proposed allocation for housing on the Haighside site *ref: HG2-173*, and believe the inclusion of this site in the site allocation plan does not make for sound planning

I do understand and support the need for more housing in the Leeds area but any development should take place on brown belt land as opposed to green belt land as you are proposing. Building on the proposed Haighside site would reduce the green belt gap between Rothwell and Robin Hood areas of the city meaning in time there will be no discernible boundary between the two. It would also massively affect the existing communities in terms of site access through neighbouring estates in particular the Haighside estate, including Low Shops Lane which is completely not suitable for heavy vehicles during construction or the amount of traffic it would need to handle for resident access.

I do believe a property plan in this area should be allocating land for development where it would best deliver the housing infrastructure needed, in a way that is less damaging to the local environment and can offer clearer benefits for the existing community. There is already a lack of infrastructure and local services in this area in particular health and schooling.

I also have concerns regarding the environmental impact building on the Haighside site would have on the local wildlife including birds, deer and nesting bats in and around Haighside woods

The Haighside site is also affected by electricity pylons and natural water courses which run through the site which would place huge ecological constraints to any planned development. Both of these issues would have a large effect on the number of houses that could be built on the proposed site meaning the plan would not provide the housing requirement in the Outer South HMCA

I am also concerned about the amount of additional traffic the new site would generate. The road infrastructure is already not sufficient for the amount of vehicles using it, especially since the building of the St Georges Park development, with large amounts of queuing traffic throughout the day already. The extra traffic would also have an effect on air quality in the area increasing in breathing related issues and more pressure on already

overstretched medical facilities. There are also a lot of young children already living in this area and extra traffic would mean extra danger to them whilst moving around to and from schools etc. or just simply playing in the area.

I am aware of alternative land being offered for development by the land owner of Hope Farm in Robin Hood and would urge the council to look at this site as an alternative to the Haighside site as it would offer the council the opportunity to build the required number of houses required also the provision of a much needed new school which would benefit the whole of the local community

I therefore urge the council to remove the Haighside site from the SAP and propose the use of the Hope Farm site instead

Yours sincerely

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