

[REDACTED]
From: [REDACTED] Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 March 2014 20:40
To: LDF Consultation

Subject: Comments on the Bradford Local Plan

I am a resident of Ben Rhydding and object strongly to the proposed development plan on the following grounds.

The population of BMDC largely lies in inner city Bradford and Keighley and the government forecast regarding future population and housing needs is based on the growing number of residents who live in these areas. Therefore the housing needs should be provided in these localities using existing brownfield sites. **Any development in the Wharfe valley does not satisfy the needs of those who seek housing in inner city Bradford or Keighley.**

The infrastructure for the Wharfe valley cannot support the extra numbers of people proposed in the Bradford local plan, namely ;

a) the A65 road is only just adequate for the present numbers. Many people by pass the A65 using the rat runs - 'over the moor' - 'on the other side of the river from Ilkley to Otley' - 'over the chevin from Menston to Otley' and from 'Otley into Leeds via the chevin and Cookridge'. When these are closed in bad weather the A65 is log jammed from Guiseley roundabout eastwards and it can take 2 hours to travel just a few miles.

b) rail links are currently saturated at peak hours with standing room only from Burley onwards.

c) the on street parking around the rail stations is a huge problem already throughout the entire area, and local shops and residents are hugely impeded from normal trading, access to local services, and any degree of privacy or quietness around their own houses.

d) schools are already at maximum numbers and siblings can often only get in on appeal, class sizes are too large as a result.

e) **Ilkley**, the whole character of Ilkley as a spa town, the jewel of BMDC and the entrance to the Yorkshire Dales has been lost because of too much traffic, too little parking, continuous traffic on the A65 stationary queues at the traffic lights leading to excess traffic using the Grove to by pass the traffic lights. The Grove is the very heart of Ilkley with it's shops, open community areas and seating areas, but the road is only wide enough for two cars to pass, any larger vehicles must wait until oncoming traffic has cleared before progressing making it effectively a 'one way' traffic stream. The road is already heavily congested and a hazard for pedestrians crossing, and for those visiting or shopping the vehicle noise and pollution is severely impacting anything the local council or shopkeepers try to do to promote Ilkley as an attractive town for visitors. More traffic from extra housing would be the death nall of Ilkley as we know it.

f) **Ben Rhydding**, the whole character of the village has suffered because of vehicle numbers and on street parking for the rail station. The centre of the village is designated as a Conservation area, but it is now just a commuter car park! The vehicles heading for the A65 at peak times already get snarled up at Ben Rhydding shops and the one way rail bridge. If the green belt land is released for development in Ben Rhydding the traffic flow and congestion will become intolerable.

Thank you

[REDACTED] Smith
 [REDACTED]
 Ilkley
 LS29 [REDACTED]