



HOSIUNA

My Comments on

The Bradford Local Plan

Subject:

LOCAL PLAN UNSOUND

Comment:

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RESPONSES TO THE BRADFORD DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN  
ILKLEY SECTION

I consider that the proposal to build 800 additional houses in Ilkley is unsound for the following reasons:

1. It attracts that number partly because it has been designated a "principal town". However its population is less than 3% of the Bradford District total. It is not an employment centre for Bradford, it is a commuter town for Leeds. Houses built in Ilkley will almost certainly be bought by people working in Leeds adding many vehicles to an already congested A65.
2. Most of the 800 new houses would be built on Green Belt, even though the Strategy sets out positive measures for minimising Green Belt releases.
3. Ilkley currently has great attractions for tourism. 800 additional house would detract from this particularly because of increased congestion.
4. There are large areas of Brown Belt land in Bradford and Keighley where the need for additional houses is at its greatest. Indeed there has been no assessment of local need in Ilkley and it is unclear where the figure of 800 comes from.
5. There has been "windfall" of 500 new homes in the last 10 years. Ilkley has already built more houses than the educational, medical, transport and parking facilities can sustain. An additional 800 houses are proposed without any obvious planning to ease any of these shortages.
6. The run off of water from Ilkley Moor is already a problem in times of heavy rain. Further building on a large scale will make this problem worse for Ilkley and have consequences further down the River Wharfe

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25 MAR 2009

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