

**From:** [REDACTED] hemming [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 March 2014 20:24  
**To:** LDF Consultation  
**Cc:** CEO - Admin; helen.adlard@pins.gsi.gov.uk; Cllr Anne Hawkesworth  
**Subject:** Local Implementation Plan for Ilkley

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find below comments on the Local Implementation Plan. I tried to submit using the representation form online, as was encouraged by yourselves, however, I found this very difficult to use and was not successful in doing so.

I have the following concerns regarding the Local Implementation Plan for Ilkley:

1. The approach and public consultation

I feel this has been inadequate and a difficult and inaccessible process. Public meetings have not been held sufficiently frequently, nor being advertised sufficiently and were inaccessible both in terms of when they were held, (difficult for people working to attend) and not made understandable or sufficient opportunity to engage with relevant staff to have meaningful discussion. I attended myself in November 2011, the information was befuddling and not accessible to the general public, insufficient approachable staff were not readily available.

2. Infrastructure: Although the core strategy states that it is vital that infrastructure is sufficient to support the plan and that the plan should support development and infrastructure. As a resident of Ilkley, it is apparent that the existing infrastructure in Ilkley is struggling to cope with its present population:

Transport: Road congestion is a massive problem with A65 suffering (and no plans to address this)

car parking is expensive and problematic, this will only be worse with increase of tourism planned for Ilkley. Bus services and trains are poor compared to other areas with which I am familiar, no direct bus service to Bradford, limited trains after peak periods which are already packed and seats not always available. The employment profile of Ilkley is that of a commuter area with most people working in Leeds/Bradford or further afield. No investment to improve this issue. Healthcare also is at maximum capacity for the current population and will increase as the population ages (I know that the average age in Ilkley is 47). Dentists too are in short supply and there is no emergency care available.

Schools: As a parent of a child who has attended a local primary school and is now at secondary school, I am aware that the debate is had every year relating to the over subscription of local schools, Ilkley schools cannot cope already with the local population and demand for places. Further housing will only exacerbate this situation. Ilkley Grammar School has not sufficient space to accommodate students which it has already and the former Grammar School site in Ben Rhydding has been sold off for housing currently being developed.

All of the above issues indicate that the Plan is not sustainable which I believe is a key requirement of the Core Strategy and National Policy. The sustainability will be further at risk with the increased housing proposed through the LIP which will significantly increase the population.

Sustainability is a key part of Section 3 of the Core Strategy and I also understand that it is a requirement that the Plan is prepared on the basis of a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements in neighbouring areas. I don't agree that this appears to have been undertaken.

The Plan makes no mention of neighbouring core strategies. The Leeds Plan which was approved in February 2014, proposes to develop 70,000 new homes over 15 year period, 2,300 of which will be in in Guiseley, Yeadon and Rawdon which are within 10 miles of Ilkley. This will have considerable impact on the transport particularly the A65 Road which is already experiencing problems. Again, this will be detrimental to tourism, visitors and local residents in Ilkley.

The majority of development appears to be proposed on green belt, presumably because of the lack of brownfield sites in Ilkley. The green belt is a particularly crucial part of Ilkley's identity and character. It is part of its heritage and once lost is gone forever. To take this away from Ilkley will be a loss for the whole district and will reduce the appeal of living in this area. Many of the people attracted to this place will leave for places with clearer identities such as Ripon and Harrogate. The loss will not just be for Ilkley but for the District as a whole.

As someone who loves Ilkley, has lived here a long time, has extended family living here and has brought their family up here, I really do believe that the proposals in the LIP will be detrimental to Ilkley's residents, visitors, economy (tourism) and will be very significant. The long term effects of this Plan will be sorely regretted for many years in the future.

Yours faithfully

██████████ Hemming (Mrs)

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