

Outer North East Parish and Neighbourhood Planning Groups

## **Councillor John Procter**Conservative Group Office

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Dear Colleague,

As some of you will be aware the Council's Development Plans Panel will be considering revised proposals for the Outer North East Housing Market Characteristic Area (HMCA) at its meeting on 19 July 2016 (please follow this link to see the agenda in detail: <a href="http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=450&Mld=7506">http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=450&Mld=7506</a>). Following that meeting, assuming it gets approval, the matter will go to the Council's Executive Board in September/October 2016 before further consultation on the site allocations for the city and a separate 6 week consultation specifically on the proposals for Outer North East Leeds.

Behind the scenes ward councillors in Wetherby and Harewood have been working to resurrect the strategic site option that was put in jeopardy by the University's decision to withdraw Headley Hall from the planning process last year. As a consequence Development Plans Panel will now consider proposal for a strategic site on the Parlington Estate, in total the site can deliver 1,750 units up to 2028, with capacity for more in the years after.

Clearly delivering such a large site poses its own problems not least in terms of highways, schools and impact on the area as a whole. But it has been our view that this approach was preferable to significant housing being scattered around existing villages, potentially irreparably damaging the rural and picturesque settlements that characterise much of the Wetherby and Harewood Wards.

We remain concerned that there are still some smaller developments being proposed that could have a local impact and we are not supportive of these proposals and have made our views clear to Leeds City Council on this. However, as you know, the Council is committed to the target of 70,000 houses city wide by 2028 and that has a knock on effect on the local target, which is 5,000 for our area. Needless to say we will continue to argue for a review of the city wide figure with a view to significantly reducing it.

Other issues of note that are addressed in the main report on the agenda (item 7) are significant changes to the greenspace provision in our area, with 7 green space sites being deleted, including Shadwell Cricket Club. A further issue of concern is the inclusion of a gypsy and traveller site at the junction of Coal Road and the A58, on a site that was once a telephone exchange. Over the years we have had numerous problems with this site particularly around planning enforcement. In our view this is not an appropriate location for a new gypsy and traveller's site and we will be strongly opposing this as the planning process moves forward.

www.leeds.gov.uk switchboard: 0113 222 4444

We will be writing to residents across both wards once we know for certain the dates of the planned consultation and we will continue to keep you updated on any future developments on the issues outlined above. We have also included, for ease of reference, the list of sites that have already been identified for housing and those that are being allocated in the current site allocations process. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or comments.

Yours sincerley,

Councillor John Procter Wetherby Ward

Councillor Gerald Wilkinson Wetherby Ward

Councillor Alan Lamb Wetherby Ward

**Councillor Rachael Procter Harewood Ward**  Councillor Matthew Robinson Harewood Ward Councillor Ryan Stephenson Harewood Ward

