

**DATA PRIVACY INSTRUCTION – ALL PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION DETAILS MUST BE REDACTED  
PRIOR TO ANY GENERAL PUBLICATION**

Mr P Oldfield  
(On behalf of:  
Fixby Residents Organisation)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2017

**Kirklees Local Plan – Stage 1 Initial Hearings**

**MIQ2 - Key Points for Consideration**

**Matter 2 – Spatial development strategy**

**Issue – Does the overall growth and spatial strategy for the Plan present a positive framework which is consistent with national policy and will contribute to the achievement of sustainable development?**

Challenges & Objections:

- The Plan references an urban focus and some release of Green Belt land but the stated objective is to promote the use of brownfield land. What evidence is there of brownfield prioritisation and what commitments exist to exhaust brownfield supply before any unnecessary and irreversible Green Belt destruction?
- The Plan also references ‘giving sufficient recognition to the protection of the Green Belt and the countryside’ and also ‘the development of brownfield sites being realised early in the plan’. There is no evidence of this and also no evidence of regional consideration e.g. at a macro level Kirklees may retain a healthy percentage of Green Belt land but in the North Huddersfield/Fixby area the Green Belt is being disproportionately targeted.
- The targeting of Huddersfield (and in particular the North Huddersfield/Fixby area) for ‘most growth’ cannot possibly be justified because it is directly at odds with at least 4 of the Council’s stated strategic objectives.
- This concern and evident lack of joined up planning is more evident when taking into consideration the proposed building plans in the adjoining Calderdale area.
- Place-making principles (e.g. protecting and enhancing an area’s character) cannot have been adequately considered and proposed new house building and Green Belt destruction in the North Huddersfield/Fixby area are directly at odds with 4 of the Council’s stated strategic objectives (referenced below).
- Air quality in the Fixby area is a recognised concern and the significant new house building plans and additional traffic this will bring to the area will only worsen this situation.
- The Kirklees Local Plan has been anchored around 10 strategic objectives and all local resident responses have been based upon these commitments being upheld via the Plan. 4

of the 10 objectives are directly contradicted by the new house building proposals in the Fixby area:

1. Protect and improve green infrastructure
2. Provide access to good quality open spaces and opportunities for sport, recreation and play.
3. Protect and enhance the characteristics of the built, natural and historic environment and local distinctiveness.
4. Promote the use of brownfield land.

Minimum expectations:

- Evidence to be provided of brownfield prioritisation and supply exhaustion prior to any Green Belt land use.
- A redistribution of the proposed Green Belt land use (if necessary post brownfield developments) to more appropriately balance across Kirklees and ensure the Council's strategic objectives apply consistently across all areas.
- Evidence to be provided to demonstrate how the proposed building plans in the Fixby area (adjoining the M62) will improve and not worsen air pollution.

Regards

Paul Oldfield

(On behalf of Fixby Residents Organisation)