

**From:** [McLucas, Steve](#)  
**To:** [McLucas, Steve](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Objection to Planning Settlement: Linlithgow; Site location: Preston Farm Field; Site Ref: H-LL 12 - [OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** 09 November 2015 14:20:48

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**DATA LABEL: OFFICIAL**

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**From:** Donald Greig [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 November 2015 20:30  
**To:** wlldp  
**Subject:** Objection to Planning Settlement: Linlithgow; Site location: Preston Farm Field; Site Ref: H-LL 12

Dear West Lothian Council

I wish to object to the above planning application in the strongest possible terms. I live at [REDACTED] and this the first time I have made a written representation on the proposed plan. I am making this submission as an individual and representing my own views.

There are so many reasons that I believe that this planning application should be rejected - some of the key ones I have detailed below:

1. Linlithgow planners are attempting to approve developments piecemeal across the town. Each development on its own manages to get under the radar in terms of its responsibility for enhancing the service infrastructure in the town, e.g. schools, transport and medical provision; planners should look at this holistically and seek housing opportunities that will develop and enhance the infrastructure in the town
2. Preston Field is classed as '3.1 prime agricultural' due to its high-grade deep soils, good climate and ability to support varied crops. Only 8% of the country has land this good and the Scottish Government is clear in its planning guidelines on future-proofing food supply: "Development on prime agriculture should not be permitted unless essential to settlement strategy... or for infrastructure... where NO other suitable site available. This is absolutely NOT the case in Linlithgow. On this basis alone this application should be rejected.
3. The Councils own environmental department has prepared a substantial report which lays out all the reasons why this area (inc the Preston Field) should be protected by designating it a Special Landscape Area (newer version of AGLV) - it is completely contradictory to rezoning for housing. The landscape has been assessed to be unique and important enough to warrant protection against urban creep into Bathgate Hills. With its combination of ancient woodlands, biodiversity and views of Cockleroy, this picturesque rolling field provides significant scenic amenity and tranquility which is valued by the local community. It provides unique character to the south boundary of Linlithgow and is particularly visible from the western approach to the town. No other significant housing sites proposed around Linlithgow in the Plan requires the loss of AGLV / protected greenbelt.
4. This site fails a number of your own planning tests for infrastructure and the traffic impact on local roads is significant. If anywhere is to be developed, it is recognised that the east side of town has better capacity than this site on the south-west corner. The Preston Field site is (1) Too distant from centre of town (2) Too distant from

public transport links (bus and train) therefore journeys from this site would be by car along congested Preston and Riccarton Roads (both have road calming proving there are already concerns) with the associated extra risk to safety of school kids (3) There is no / limited capacity at Linlithgow Primary School (4) The health centre is already known to have capacity problems

5. The Cala Homes proposal is worryingly mature and the fact that the Council rezoning boundary mimics this proposal so closely indicates an unhealthy level of collusion which should be of a particular concern to you.

Given the above, I am absolutely astonished that this application has made it to the mature stage it has and I would ask you to reject this immediately.

Donald Greig



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