

From: [REDACTED]
To: [wlldp](#)
Subject: West Lothian Council - Local Development Plan Consultation Response
Date: 22 November 2015 17:17:24

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a resident of Linlithgow and this email is my first submission in response to the Council's LDP.

I am in favour of Linlithgow growing and support the building of new homes in the town but only if it is done sensitively, if a fair proportion of the houses are affordable and only if the character of the town is not put under additional threat. I do not believe the current plan meets these criteria. In particular I am objecting to the Preston Farm Field Site, Linlithgow HLL 12. I am objecting for the following reasons:

- additional housing on this site would increase traffic up Manse Road, Preston Road and through the town centre. These roads are already extremely congested and on weekdays when commuters park up Manse Road it is very narrow to pass. The bridge over the canal basin often sees 'stand-offs' with cars coming from both up and down the hill and this will only get worse with additional cars trying to access the Preston Field site. Preston Road during school drop-off and pick-up is hazardous and I believe children and adults alike are at danger when so many people are trying to access the two schools. The High Street is also regularly congested and drivers would have to either head up Manse Road or along the high street to get to Preston Road to access the site. It makes the town polluted, not attractive to tourists and as it is often so busy I rarely stop in town to do any shopping.

- the west end of Linlithgow is already heavily populated with large residential areas of Deanburn, Priory, Braehead, Kettlestoun, Avontoun Gardens, Riccarton, Accredales and Beechwood. I am in favour of rebalancing the town's settlements and growing Linlithgow from the East. This would require a new slip road to be added which would allow motorists to head west along the M9 from the east of the town. This would stop even more traffic clogging up the high street and reduce the pollution in the town centre. I strongly support the proposals of Linlithgow's Local Planning Forum.

- the building of housing on the Preston Field site would spoil the attractive setting of Linlithgow by further reducing the amount of green space visible from the western approach, from the canal and from other aspects in town. As an historically important town with significant numbers of tourists visiting I believe such housing developments would significantly reduce its attractiveness.

- I also believe that this site is of interest to Cala homes for the building of 5 bedroom houses. I do not believe such large houses are required in Linlithgow and that affordable housing with easy access to the motorway, train and bus routes is required more.

- Finally I believe building on this site would negatively impact the wildlife that is currently in the field. I am aware of bats, badgers, pheasants and many birds enjoy living in and around the field. Housing would cause such wildlife to be displaced.

Please acknowledge receipt of this communication.

Yours faithfully

Shona Smith

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