

WLC REF: MIRQ0082

-----Or [REDACTED]  
From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 14 October 2014 21:00  
To: wlldp  
Subject: West lothian local development plan

Re main issues report preferred housing report list, E01 - 0168 (Preston farm, Linlithgow)

To whom it may concern

I would like to object to the inclusion of this site in the Main Issues Report Housing List. I would like to recommend that it is removed from the forthcoming plan.

This is because:

1. The council's own Landscape Designation Review shows that the land has an enhanced level of environmental protection with special status. It is identified as a core Special Landscape Area of the Bathgate Hills. As a result it is not an area that should be built on. Indeed identifying this area for potential housing is a contradiction of the council's own advice in the Local Designation Review. This says that the council should resist development pressures on the edge of Linlithgow particularly where it advances towards the skylines. The land at Preston Farm is exactly this type of site. Housing would destroy views over ancient woodland which are enjoyed by residents, dog walkers and the like who use the local area.
2. The area offers a habitat for local wildlife some of which are becoming more rare. Bats, badgers, birds of prey, insects and small mammals are often seen in in the area. As stated already it also includes ancient woodland and the maturity of the trees offer a habitat to certain insects which form an important part of the food chain.
3. Residents in the local area have received reassurances about the status of the land from local planners, particularly when purchasing the properties. This has influenced many people's decision to live in the area which is further out of town and on the edge of the countryside. Changing the designation of the land would change the outlook of the local community with new housing affecting the uninterrupted views that are enjoyed from the existing properties and local walks/footpaths.

I urge you to remove the site from the housing list and forthcoming local plan.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
residents at [REDACTED]