

Does the Neighbourhood Plan Put Garforth in Danger?

Having a neighbourhood plan does not make us a target for developers. Garforth Plan does not put forward any sites for housing development. And the fact of having a plan does not make you a target either. There are 39 communities in Leeds with a neighbourhood plan. They would not spend years writing a plan that puts their community in danger. If having a plan made you a target then there are 39 targets and a choice of 39 locations is not a target at all is it, 39 targets is everywhere.

Our plan emphasises that we are surrounded by green belt and that our surrounding land is also the highest quality farmland. This is captured in a legal document that planners have to take into account. If you as an individual made this point it would be ignored.

There are real dangers in not having a plan. There are no obstacles that a developer must overcome to build. You tell Leeds City Council that you are not bothered what is built in your community. You don't tell them of the local problems that would be exacerbated by any new development. Your views are not expressed in a legal document and therefore carry little weight.