



## Fact Sheet: The Council's Draft Local Plan and Rural West York

### What does the Draft Local Plan propose for Rural West York?

- ◇ 20 plot showpeople site on Wetherby Road, Knapton
- ◇ Nearly 600 homes on 60 acres of land in Copmanthorpe
- ◇ 24 new homes on 2.5 acres of land behind Rufforth Primary School
- ◇ 308 homes on nearly 30 acres of land on the old civil service sports ground, on Millfield Lane
- ◇ 36 homes on nearly 4 acres at Blairgowerie House, Upper Poppleton
- ◇ Nearly 40 acres to be developed for light industry at Northminster Business Park at Knapton Moor and a further 100 acres to be taken out of the greenbelt and 'safeguarded' for future development
- ◇ Further 55 acres to the west of Copmanthorpe 'safeguarded' for future development.
- ◇ 9 suggested sites for wind farms of varying sizes

### What does the Draft Local Plan propose for York Outer?

- ◇ 80 plots for Gypsy, Traveller & Showpeople families, including completely inappropriate sites in picturesque villages like Dunnington and Knapton
- ◇ 22,000 homes to be built over the next 17 years, of which 16,000 will be in York's greenbelt
- ◇ Well over 2000 acres of land taken out of York's greenbelt for housing and businesses
- ◇ Potentially 10,000 more cars contributing to congestion, without any promises that our roads will be upgraded
- ◇ Over 40 proposed wind farm sites of various sizes across the constituency
- ◇ No guarantees that any of the necessary infrastructure will follow these developments
- ◇ Hugely over ambitious building targets, which could see the entire area turned into a building site for the foreseeable future, with the increase in construction traffic grinding the city to a halt

### FAQs

- ⇒ **What is the Local Plan?** The Local Plan is essentially the Council's development vision for York over the next 15 years. It secures most of the greenbelt but gives the Council the opportunity to pick and choose which bits they want to protect and which they want to develop.
- ⇒ **What are the timescales for the adoption of the Local Plan?** The Local Plan is set to be fully in place by 2015. Before then there will be two public consultation processes. The first will be run by the Council, which we are informed will begin on 5th June and last for 8 weeks. The second will take place in 2014 and will be run by the Planning Inspectors as a public enquiry.
- ⇒ **What can I do to stop the proposals I don't want?**
  1. Take an active role in the consultation process when it begins and tell the Council what you think and why you don't want the proposals to go ahead.
  2. Engage with your neighbours and parish councils to formulate strong arguments and objections against the proposals.
  3. Sign Julian's petitions, either on paper or on [democracy.york.gov.uk](http://democracy.york.gov.uk) and encourage your friends, family and neighbours to sign as well. If you have the time, please help Julian's campaign by contacting him to request some of his petition sheets and circling them within your community.

*For further information on the above, please visit the Council's website or Julian's website on [www.juliansturdy.co.uk](http://www.juliansturdy.co.uk). If you have any further concerns or queries, then please don't hesitate to contact Julian on the details below.*

**Get in touch with Julian Sturdy MP and your ward Cllrs Ian Gillies, Chris Steward & Paul Healey**

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#### What does your local MP, Julian Sturdy think?

- ◇ Julian is against the development of York's greenbelt. He believes that the Local Plan and the suburban sprawl it entails, has the potential to "destroy the charm and character of our great city's rural setting."
- ◇ Julian believes the Council's housing targets are vastly over-ambitious and "completely unsustainable."
- ◇ He believes the proposed showpeople and travellers sites in Knapton and Dunnington are entirely inappropriate and will be hugely damaging to our rural communities' way of life.
- ◇ Julian has always been sceptical of wind farms and their questionable benefits. He is therefore determined to prevent these monstrosities from encircling our city and destroying the intrinsic beauty of our countryside.

#### What is Julian doing in his campaign to protect York's greenbelt?

- ◇ Julian is speaking up loud and clear for the people of York Outer and will be representing all those who don't want to see York's greenbelt torn apart by the Local Plan.
- ◇ He is investigating how the Council have calculated the 'need' for the Traveller and Showpeople sites and he is communicating with other local authorities to see what they are providing, in comparison to York.
- ◇ He is petitioning the people on various proposals and encouraging one and all to take part in the consultation process.
- ◇ Julian has been meeting and communicating with Council officials to urge them to ensure the consultation process is as thorough and wide ranging as possible.
- ◇ He has also written to the Secretary of State for Local Government to ask him to strengthen planning policy by giving communities more power to fight proposed wind farms.

#### The Council's Consultation Process:

We are informed the consultation will be live from Wednesday 5th June and will last for 8 weeks. You can take part in the process by submitting your comments:

- In writing, to *Local Plan, City of York Council, FREEPOST (YO239), York, YO1 7ZZ*
- Via email, to *localplan@york.gov.uk*
- Or on the Council's online consultation page at *www.york.gov.uk/consultation*

#### Other Useful Information:

- View the Council's Local Plan: [http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/200396/planning\\_policy](http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/200396/planning_policy)
- Visit the Council's FAQ page: [http://www.york.gov.uk/info/200396/planning\\_policy/794/new\\_local\\_plan\\_faqs](http://www.york.gov.uk/info/200396/planning_policy/794/new_local_plan_faqs)
- See the Council's proposals map: [http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/6911/annex\\_a\\_proposals\\_map](http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/file/6911/annex_a_proposals_map)

Keep yourself updated on what Julian's doing, by visiting his website at [www.juliansturdy.co.uk](http://www.juliansturdy.co.uk) and get in touch with him on the details below:

#### Contact Julian:

**Write to him:** Julian Sturdy MP,  
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