

## Planning Policy

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**From:** [REDACTED] HOLMES [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 January 2016 13:19  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** BMDC Local Plan Core Strategy Consultation

I am writing regarding the changes to the above Core Strategy Consultation process in particular with the proposed additional housing numbers being considered for Ilkley Town. I understand from your documentation that this has been increased by 25% from 800 to 1000 houses.

I believe that now, in the light of the recent serious flooding that took place in Ilkley and the Wharfe Valley over the Christmas period, the whole Local Plan Core Strategy, especially for additional Housing should be completely re-considered.

Over Christmas I watched the water pouring off Ilkley Moor in torrents to inundate the Town. Additional Houses and Tarmac Roads no matter where they are built will only exacerbate this situation and prevent the land from soaking up any surface water.

At some time on Boxing Day the River Wharfe was actually flowing OVER the Ben Rhydding Toll Bridge and surrounding fields, and it is fortunate that the Bridge survived and no lives were lost !!

Regardless of the many arguments regarding whether the infrastructure in Ilkley can support the additional housing numbers, in my view the recent flooding problem outweighs any of them and Bradford Council should take the problem very seriously.

I understand that Leeds Council and York Council are re-thinking their House Planning Policies in the light of the recent floods and I would implore Bradford Council to do the same.

I understand that additional housing is being demanded by Central Government but Bradford Council should now, for future Generations, take great care in where they plan future development in and around Ilkley and the Wharfe Valley Basin.

[REDACTED] Holmes

Ilkley

LS29 [REDACTED]