

# Calderdale Council's disastrous local plan: Why hand over to developers all the Green Belt sites proposed for housing immediately?

Calderdale Council's disastrous, unsustainable, *'More-More-More'* local plan - proposed to be adopted this Wednesday 22 March - is based on 3 fictions

Calderdale Council say we need

## 19,320 *'More'* people

Which would increase Calderdale's population to 229,400. BUT the 2021 census shows Calderdale's population has stopped growing, with just 206,600 people. And where will these extra 20,000+ come from by 2033?

Calderdale Council say we need

## 10,318 *'More'* jobs

BUT Calderdale's employment has fallen in recent years, and if our population isn't growing, why do we need so many more jobs? And why not better-paid, more productive jobs for the existing workforce? Also Calderdale Council has no strategy to create these jobs!

Calderdale Council say we need

## 14,950 *'More'* dwellings

BUT this number of dwellings has been increased to provide for the fictional number of more 'people' and 'jobs'. Many would be built in the wrong place, on our Green Belt. Less than 25% would be affordable

**No consultation**



- It's a government requirement that councils consult widely with communities on 'an agreed set of priorities' for the local plan
- But the 3 *'More-More-More'* priorities collectively were not part of the original 2018 plan consultation
- And in fact **none** of the 3 priorities are capable of being achieved during the 2018-33 plan period
- Consequently the council's claimed *'More-More-More'* benefits **will never materialise**

- Calderdale Council wants to remove the protected status of ALL the Green Belt sites allocated for new housing NOW
- The council has NOT quantified what the impact on Calderdale's carbon emissions will be, despite the Council's new climate action plan requiring a reduction in the district's emissions of around 60% across the plan period to 2035
- There are NO local plan requirements that the 15,000 new houses it says must be built are constructed to low/zero carbon standards
- Calderdale Council refused to disclose whether their Plan will increase road traffic in communities already experiencing congestion

**Calderdale's greenbelt loss**



**685**

**football pitches**

(equivalent greenbelt destruction)

- 7,000 of the proposed 15,000 new houses, nearly **50%**, will be built on Calderdale's protected Green Belt (with others on less protected green spaces). That's the size as 685 football pitches
- Yet because of the Council's delays in developing the local plan, they accept that their 15,000 housebuilding target **CAN'T** actually be achieved by 2033!
- Consequently, most of the new housebuilding on the Green Belt - around two thirds - would be delayed until at least **the late 2020s** and even up to 2036

### Why hand over ALL the greenbelt sites NOW?

- If adopted, the government says that the Calderdale local plan **must be reviewed** to make sure its priorities are still relevant, starting in 2027
- By then, because of the Council delays, **only around 1,000 houses** may have been built on what were previously Green Belt sites
- And also there'll be another 5 year's population and employment data that will demonstrate that the Council's *more-more-more* 'priorities' are guesswork, so **collapsing their housing target**
- Yet the Council is proposing to hand over to developers **ALL** the Green Belt sites it claims are necessary for its fictional targets **NOW** in 2023. The 2027 review would not be able to restore their protected status



Assuming Calderdale Council were to adopt the local plan, wouldn't it be more responsible and sustainable only to release **NOW** the Green Belt sites required until the 2027 review is completed? We could therefore **continue to protect ALL** those Green Belt sites that **WOULDN'T** be developed until the late 2020s to 2036

## HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Download & share

**Download** the full Calderdale Friends of the Earth report and this infographic and share with your friends and social networks

Tell your councillor

**Tell your local ward councillors you don't want this unsustainable local plan approved, or ALL the Green Belt sites allocated for housing handed over to developers NOW**

LOBBY the Council

Join the environmental and community groups who have been this local plan for years in their LOBBY of the Council meeting.  
22nd March 5pm outside Halifax Town Hall.  
Council meeting 6pm.

download: [bit.ly/3ZXESxi](https://bit.ly/3ZXESxi)