

Mr Richard Gilbert  
Local Plan Programme Officer  
Forwarded via Planning Policy Team  
Economic Regeneration  
Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council  
PO Box 634  
Barnsley S70 9GG

15<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Dear Mr Gilbert,

**BARNSELY LOCAL PLAN – MAIN MATTER 3 – ISSUE: WILL THE PLAN MEET THE OAN FOR EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE PLAN PERIOD? - YORKSHIRE LAND LIMITED - UNIQUE REPRESENTOR NUMBER: 23082**

We write on behalf of our client Yorkshire Land Limited (YLL) and further to their hearing statement to Main Matter 3 of the Barnsley Local Plan Examination in Public.

Whilst reviewing our files ahead of the commencement of the Examination in Public this week we found an additional piece of evidence associated with the employment land needs of Penistone. The evidence relates to an email exchange of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and the Barnsley Development Agency in respect of a previously identified employment site at Lairds Way, Penistone which is now in the process of being developed for residential use. Of note the site was previously identified as one of two Employment Allocations in Penistone (Site Ref.P1) within earlier versions of the Barnsley Local Plan. As the Inspector will be aware, the Local Plan now only seeks to identify one new employment site in Penistone (Site Ref.P2).

The evidence supports the argument placed in YLL's submitted hearing statement in respect of the need to distribute additional employment sites to Penistone on account of the following: -

- From both a labour supply and a labour demand perspective Penistone is seen as being one of the Borough's most economically active part of the borough, which has seen levels of employment and self-employment continue to increase over the last 10 years and remain higher than Borough wide, regional and National rates.
- Penistone West Ward residents have been more resilient and continue to record significantly lower levels of unemployment compared to other parts of the Borough and indeed Regional and National rates.
- The ability to continue the growth recorded over the past is crucial to helping to ensure that Penistone contributes to the overall Borough wide economic strategy targets.
- Many "self-employed" are working from home in the Penistone and surrounding areas due to the lack of facilities in the proximity especially for new start and small businesses.
- Recent demand for appropriate sized units at Martree Business Park (3,000 – 4,000 sq.ft) has seen all units on this employment site currently being occupied and let to tenants. The issue now will relate to the provision of additional space to retain these businesses and the delivery of additional employment space for similar businesses that could be attracted to Penistone.



We apologise for the late submission of this evidence and kindly ask that it be forwarded to the Inspector and the Council's Planning Policy Officers.

Should you or the Inspector require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Butler'.

**PAUL BUTLER**  
Director

Enc.