

Stephanie Tolson  
Clerk to Oxspring Parish Council  
43 Nether Royd View,  
Silkstone Common,  
Barnsley,  
S75 4QQ

28<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Dear Ms Tolson,

We write on behalf of our client, Yorkshire Land Ltd (YLL), in response to your email dated 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015 (attached) in which you informed us that Oxspring Parish Council (OPC) have agreed not to provide us with a copy of the URS Housing Needs Analysis at this time. The reasoning provided was as follows:-

*"The Council has been advised that if it is likely that the information contained in the survey is not going to be used in the final Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan, then there is no need to release the information".*

The document, the summary of which is enclosed, will provide a key evidence base to the Neighbourhood Plan because it seeks to identify the number, type and tenure of homes needed to meet the current and future housing requirements of the Village. Consequently, YLL are both disappointed and surprised by the stance that has been taken.

YLL's disappointment relates to the OPC being unwilling to place a document that was prepared through the use of public funds into the public domain. Their surprise relates to the statement that a key evidence base document is going to be ignored in the forthcoming production of the next stages of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan process is to work with local stakeholders and Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to consider how the needs of the Village can be met. The information contained within this document is therefore critical to the Neighbourhood Plan preparation process and it should be made available to the public to ensure a transparent consultation process is maintained.

Furthermore, the potential dismissal of the evidence contained within this document would be tantamount to a dismissal of those households of the Village that are in housing need, whether it be affordable or general housing need. Such households would be required to move out of the Village, a place where they want to live, in order to live in a home they need and desire. Those households wishing to move back to the Village, or to the Village for the first time, would also be placed in the same predicament. YLL question whether this a fair and reasonable approach to take.

Unfortunately, the email response of OPC provides further evidence that the identified needs and aspirations of the Village will simply not be delivered if the OPC and Neighbourhood Plan Group maintain their current approach in the preparation of the Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan. Such an approach is not in keeping with the spirit of proper and effective neighbourhood planning and YLL believe that the Neighbourhood Plan process is now being used to stifle the delivery of new housing development in the area, rather than inspire the community to work together to meet its identified needs. YLL will place this letter on record to be used in evidence on any future statutory consultation and examination of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,



**PAUL BUTLER**  
Director

Cc

Joe Jenkinson – Head of Planning & Building Control, Westgate Plaza, PO Box 604, Barnsley, S70 9FE  
Helen Willows – Planning Officer, Barnsley Council, PO Box 604, Barnsley, S70 9FE

**Steven**

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**From:** Steph Tolson [opc@tolson818.fsnet.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 21 May 2015 13:07  
**To:** Paul Butler  
**Subject:** Re: Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan - Request for Information

Dear Mr Butler,

As per my previous email, your request for a copy of the URS Housing Needs Analysis was discussed at the recent Oxspring Parish Council meeting. The Council has been advised that if it is likely that the information contained in the survey is not going to be used in the final Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan, then there is no need to release the information.

Therefore the Parish Council agreed to not provide you with a copy at this point in time.

Best regards,

Steph Tolson.  
Clerk to Oxspring PC.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Paul Butler](#)  
**To:** [OPC@tolson818.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:OPC@tolson818.fsnet.co.uk)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2015 8:18 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan - Request for Information

Good Evening Ms Tolson,

Further to the emails below from myself and Ann Walker, could you please provide me with a copy of the full URS Housing Needs Analysis Survey for Oxspring. If you could email this through to me that would be much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Paul

**Paul Butler**  
**Director**

07970 506702  
01904 731365  
[paul.butler@pbplanning.co.uk](mailto:paul.butler@pbplanning.co.uk)

24 Fountayne Street  
York YO31 8HL



**From:** Alan Walker [<mailto:walker761@talktalk.net>]  
**Sent:** 29 April 2015 13:30  
**To:** Paul Butler  
**Subject:** Re: Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan - Request for Information

Good afternoon Mr Butler

Thank you for your email in connection with our Neighbourhood Plan. Unfortunately, neither myself or Ruth Rovira-Wild are in a position to make available the information you have requested as the Housing Needs Analysis Survey was commissioned by Oxspring Parish Council. Therefore if you want this information, or indeed any other information, you should approach the Clerk at Oxspring Parish Council.

Regards Ann Walker

**From:** [Paul Butler](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2015 11:30 AM

**To:** [Ruth Rovira](#) ; <mailto:walker761@talktalk.net>

**Subject:** Oxspring Neighbourhood Plan - Request for Information

Dear Mrs Rovira-Wild & Mrs Walker,

I am writing to request a copy of the full URS Housing Needs Capacity report for Oxspring. The summary is available online, however, I can't find the full version of the report. If you could email this through to me that would be much appreciated.

Could you also please let me know the date of when you met with Helen Willows of Barnsley MBC in the Village as shown in the videos posted on the Neighbourhood Plan website:- <http://www.oxspringplan.org.uk/about/videos/>.

Regards,

Paul

**Paul Butler**  
**Director**

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