

Numbered Objection	Summary of Objection	Response
1	Open Space assessment ranking for the property	<p>The Open Space Assessment of May 2014 has recognised part of the site being appropriated as a quality “amenity greenspace” with its primary purpose being to provide opportunities for informal activities close to work or home or enhance the appearance of a residential area. The location of similar open space within Pleasington Playing fields and Witton Park with its array of formal/informal and woodlands area within 177 ha and a score of 77% under the Parks &amp; gardens section of the Open space Assessment is nearby and is considered one of the best parks that Blackburn has to offer. It cannot be denied that locals who have had this open space on their door step will now have to walk or travel a little further. The entrance to the Pleasington Playing Fields is located on the north side and slightly west of the open space site but it is accepted that people that live southerly to the open space may potentially have several hundred meters further in order to reach Witton Park/Pleasington Playing Fields. However, given the extent and quality of space that is provided it is considered that this is acceptable. By way of comparison, the Open Space assessment describes the catchment area for any amenity space as being 800m or 10 minutes’ walk.</p>
2	Ideal for General Family useage	<p>The convenience of this open space is acknowledged but again, Pleasington Playing Fields and Witton Park with its wide range of leisure option and extent of grounds is available.</p>
3	Believes Leisure & Culture & Adult Services should be compensated for the loss of their assets	<p>In terms of planning requirements, it is expected that any housing developer will be required to pay a sum in mitigating the loss which is considered to be a satisfactory mitigation as this can be used to improve or create new green infrastructure in the locality. In this case, this would directed at Witton Park. In respect of Adult Services, the property is considered surplus to its requirements and so the continued costs of securing the site pending any redevelopment would now fall to the council’s general resources rather than lie as a cost to Adult Services.</p>
4	Numerous houses being built in the Borough already	<p>The Council cannot currently identify a five year supply of housing sites and accordingly from a planning policy perspective this illustrates there is a lack of supply of land for housing and that in general terms, there are too few housing sites being brought forward in the Borough.</p>
5	Land not allocated in Local Plan as housing and that land requirements should be reduced	<p>That part of the property being appropriated from Adult Services is designated as a brownfield site and hence the principle of redevelopment is accepted from a planning perspective.</p> <p>The Authority cannot currently identify a five year supply of housing sites and accordingly from a planning policy perspective this illustrates there is a lack of supply of land for housing and that in general terms, there are too few housing sites being brought forward in the Borough. Therefore sites that are considered sustainable and meet other criteria in the national and local planning documents must be considered, irrespective of whether or not they are not allocated in the Local Plan. There are policies which consider the</p>



		circumstances in which the loss of green infrastructure is considered to be acceptable and what mitigations or compensations may be acceptable to counter the loss.
6	The appropriation and disposal is for financial considerations for other Council projects	The appropriation is to enable a housing site to be brought forward which is located in a sustainable location and any financial receipts are incidental to this.
7	Other sites are available instead of this site	This site is one of a number of sites considered to be acceptable under current planning policy status to support a residential scheme. At present there is a lack of a five year supply of housing sites and so from a national policy (the NPFF) it is considered that there are still insufficient sites available and hence the Council from a slightly more objective stance has decided it is acceptable to bring this site forward.
8	Short-term financial gain – long-term loss for community	The Council is of the view that provision of this housing site will be in the long term benefit of the Borough and community overall.
9	General objections	These are noted and the reasoning provided in other objections are generally relevant in response. It is noted that the recent planning decision notes the protection of the trees on the site along Tower Road and the open feel that this road offers.
10	Loss will contribute to childhood obesity	There are many factors that can contribute to childhood obesity. The Council can provide information relating to exercise options and diet.
<b>Number</b>	<b>Objections numbers</b>	
1	1	
2	1, 2	
3	1,3,4,5	
4	5,1	
5	1	
6	6,5,1	
7	1	
8	1,2,4,7	
9	2,5,8	
10	8,4,1	



11	9	
12	1,6	
13	9	
14	1,2,9	
15	1,4,3,5	
16	3,6,8,5,1	
17	3,6,8,5,1	
18	9,1	
19	6,8,5	
20	2,5	
21	1,4,6,8,3, 10	