

The Housing demo looks to get the class to answer the question ‘Where would you place a new housing estate?’

This is achieved by asking the children in groups to discuss what geographic considerations there might be for where to place a housing estate. Things like Roads.

After the discussion we normally ask the groups to feedback and see what they have got. The demo then goes through a number of considerations and shows them on a web map so the children can consider which works best.

	Former Oaklands School	Parker’s Farm	Field’s Farm	Adanac Park	Cromarty Field	Five Acres Field
Public Transport (bus stops)	served by several bus stops	1 pair of bus stops	1 pair of bus stops	no bus service	1 pair of bus stop	possibly 1 pair of bus stops
Road Access	Good access	access at one point	access at one point	access at one point	multiple access points	multiple access points
Health	Local major Hospital, GP surgery, however it should be mentioned that GP Surgeries may not always have space					
Education	There are several primary schools and a secondary school. So, on the surface this looks ok.					
School Catchments	When you look at school catchments there are 2 layers to be switched on, these represent schools in different authorities so although there may be schools, the question would be if there are spaces within the catchment school.					
Retail	There is a large Sainsbury’s here so that covers most of the needs					
Flood Risk	None of the sites are within a flood risk zone					
Land fill Site						This is a former land fill site

Steepness		quite steep land from the road to the river	Some steep land in part of the site			
Deprivation	mid deprivation	low deprivation	low deprivation	low deprivation	mid deprivation	higher deprivation
Greenspace						This site is a public greenspace
Local Nature Reserve					This site is a local nature reserve	
Brownfield/Greenfield	Brownfield	Greenfield	Greenfield	Greenfield	Greenfield	Greenfield
Overall	Good site, best choice	no, due to single point road access and steepness	no due to point road access	possible second choice, poor public transport links	No, the site is a nature reserve	No, the site is a Greenspace and a landfill site
Reality	planning pending	planning approved	planning contested	planning is part of larger site	no planning	no planning

The best site normally comes out as the Former Oaklands School site. It is a brownfield site, right next to bus stops, shops and the GP surgery, with good road access and a choice of primary schools within the appropriate local authority.

A possible second choice is Adanac Park. Although it is a greenfield site and has poor public transport it does not fall down on any other factors so is a possible

The Parker's Farm and Field's Farm sites would both have single road access. If 150 houses are built, that could be 250 -300 cars, all wanting to leave and arrive at the same times of day, it also puts pressure on the schools in the area as well. Parker's Farm also is on very steep land, with a drop of 30-40m across the site towards the river.

The other sites are ruled out for being a) a nature reserve and b) a public greenspace and landfill site.