

Planning Department  
Kirklees Council

Via email.

17 March 2021

Dear Mr Walker

**Lidl Planning Application 2020/62/93308/W**

We have been monitoring the planning application by Lidl at the former Spotted Cow on New Hey Road on behalf of our clients ALDI.

We wanted to reiterate the point that whilst there are significant letters of support, many of these cite the lack of retail choice and competition in the local area. The introduction of the ALDI store will address this deficiency. ALDI would like Members to be aware that they remain committed to the delivery of their site and progress is being made with a start on site planned early Autumn once the buildings have been demolished.

We would like to highlight that the supporting Planning and Retail Statement (October 2020) states that the application for a new Lidl store on the former college site (2018/62/92647/W) would replace the Company's existing facility at Castlegate. On the 24<sup>th</sup> February, Members resolved to approve this application, when examining the committee report, it is clear that there is no mechanism for Lidl to rescind their consent at Castlegate meaning that their store could be occupied by another food retailer.

The Retail Impact Assessment submitted on behalf of Lidl in support of the Spotted Cow site does not consider the cumulative impact of the college site coming forward with a Lidl foodstore. Whilst we acknowledge that these stores would cover a different catchment area, they still could potentially divert trade from the same stores. This assessment has not been made; we would be grateful if you could highlight this to the Council's retail consultants for their consideration and advice.

We would like to be kept informed of the proposals and reserve the right for ALDI to present to planning committee members.

Yours sincerely,

By email