

**Consultation Response from KC Public Health****2024/92727 Land adjacent to, Ashbourne Drive, Liversedge****Erection of residential development 67 dwellings with associated access, parking, public open space, landscaping and infrastructure****Date Responded:** 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**Responding Officer:** Louise Muhammad**Responding Ref:** 2024/92727**This response is from the Public Health Improvement Team.**

In Kirklees, the Public Health Improvement Team has developed a rapid health impact assessment (HIA) framework and guidance tool for planning applications. The purpose of this is to assess the broad health impacts of proposed developments. The rapid HIA is a material consideration in the Kirklees Local Plan and is listed in the Kirklees Validation List.

The Public Health Improvement Team will carry out its responsibilities, as a consultee for the Kirklees Planning Authority to:

- Apply an agreed rapid HIA screening [methodology](#) at the pre-application / application stage, to identify if a rapid HIA is required for a proposed development.
- Review and respond to a submitted HIA, focusing on the health improvement themes relevant to local and national planning policy and the public health priorities which impact on the immediate and surrounding areas of the proposed development.

The Public Health Improvement Team do not provide specialist technical advice or feedback on development proposals, such as around waste, noise or air quality. This responsibility lies with other council teams and their responses will be provided separately.

Local intelligence shows that the following health indicators for adults within Cleckheaton Ward, where the proposed development is taking place, are higher than the Kirklees average.

- Rates of emergency admission due to respiratory disease

The submitted rapid health impact assessment has been reviewed. The Public Health Improvement Team have identified further measures and considerations surrounding the development issues, as outlined in the table below, which look to enhance the proposed development and further improve health and wellbeing outcomes for people and place. We kindly request that the measures set out in the table for each development issue are incorporated into the submitted Rapid Health Impact Assessment and implemented should the application progress.

Development issue	Further measures and considerations
Construction phase	<p>N/A</p> <p>A number of assessments have been submitted (eg Air quality, Noise Impacts etc) and are comprehensive in that they identify potential health impacts and relevant mitigations.</p> <p>A further full CEMP is recommended to include details of how the site will be kept safe/secure during construction phase and how ongoing community communication channels are continued during the construction phase so issues can be addressed etc.</p> <p>In addition, PH recommend that construction worker health &amp; wellbeing is taken into consideration during this phase eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe cycle storage</li> <li>• Access to facilities for example to reheat food/take a break.</li> <li>• Workers informed about wider support that is available within Kirklees that may assist with personal health goals/aspirations etc:</li> </ul> <p>For example, Kirklees Wellness Service (<a href="https://kirkleeswellnessservice.co.uk/">https://kirkleeswellnessservice.co.uk/</a>) provide support around smoking cessation, healthy weight, mental health, etc.'</p>
Housing	<p>Good to see a mix of housing type and size across the proposed development -including a number of 1 &amp; 2-bed maisonettes. Kirklees has a higher demographic of older people than the national average and the projections are that this will increase significantly over the next two decades. Page 36 of the submitted DAS states: <i>There is a range of dwelling sizes proposed to meet the needs of a diverse range of users and take into account factors such as the ageing population. They are fit for purpose and are adaptable to the changing needs of their occupants over time.</i> Also, page 37 under LIFESPAN reads: <i>Well-designed private places, such as homes and gardens, are designed to be flexible to adapt to the changing needs of their users over time.</i> <b>However, there is no explanation/detail on how the design allows for future adaptation.</b></p> <p>PH would ask the Developer to revisit the decision not to include the affordable housing percentage/element. There is a chronic shortage of housing across the borough-across all tenures. Enabling households who have an aspiration for own homeownership to be able to progress up the</p>

	<p>housing ladder, frees up social rented properties for those in need or provides access to lower cost starter homes (as those households progress). If the usual 20% (13 homes) are felt to be too costly for this proposed site- <b>PH requests that the Developer offers a reduced percentage (eg 10% allocation)</b></p>
<p>Active travel and sustainable transport</p>	<p>The links for walking and cycling are well presented. Access to bus stops within convenient walking distance are also evident for work, leisure, retail etc. PH weren't sure if the dwellings without garages (states 7 of the 67 only) would all be provided with stand-alone sheds, as this would provide adequate cycle/scooter storage and perhaps encourage the use of such modes of travel.</p>
<p>Access to open and green spaces</p>	<p>It is clear from the plans that adequate consideration has been given to landscaping and biodiversity across the development. And in addition, there is open green space allocation that is in the 'public' realm. Although some trees will need to be removed (they are those already in poor condition)-the majority will be retained and added to. PH note the mention of ornamental cherry trees and would ask the developer to maybe instead or in addition to consider incorporation of edible fruit bearing trees that would benefit residents further and link to access to healthy affordable food. PH would recommend that rear garden space corresponds appropriately to the size of each dwelling-assuming 3,4 beds will be family households with t least 2+ children.</p>
<p>Access to healthy and affordable food</p>	<p>Food retail amenities are within reasonable walking distance-with good bus links to the main centre. There is mention of all plots featuring adequate and useable garden space-the developer could consider a show home (if one is being included) having growing space utilised- to inspire potential purchasers to grow <i>some</i> of their own produce.</p>
<p>Community and personal safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural Surveillance has been considered in the overall design of the development. Appropriate street lighting and line of sight, tree positioning are also important considerations -in particular in relation to suicide reduction/mitigations. For more information on appropriate design please go to: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-suicides-in-public-places">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-suicides-in-public-places</a></li> </ul> <p>Also, it is evident that clear boundaries have been established around personal property etc. And</p>

	<p>traffic calming/speed recommendations will be introduced. Further consideration should be given to how to mitigate against anti-social behaviour during construction phase (out of hours of operation)</p>
<p>Employment and economic vibrancy</p>	<p>PH would really encourage the developer to support employment opportunities for local/Kirklees residents where at all possible. To support this commitment further, we would recommend the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider local labour and supply chain opportunities (e.g., through Meet the Buyer events) from the construction phase onwards.</li> <li>- Liaise with local skills, training and employment programmes led / commissioned by Kirklees Council, as well as local apprenticeship schemes to offer building and trades opportunities, as the proportion of NVQ level 1 &amp; 2 are low amongst local residents.</li> <li>- Request all (sub) contractors to support positive employment opportunities and support health and wellbeing in the workplace.</li> </ul>
<p>Community cohesion and social support</p>	<p>Public Rights of Way/Footpath forms part of the development in addition to 0.46ha of Public Green Space. The inclusion of some benches/seating may enhance opportunities for social connection. PH could not determine whether small play areas/pocket parks are included as part of the development but if not would encourage the addition of a couple.</p> <p>The location of the development ensures convenient links to the main centre and further social and leisure pursuits.</p>
<p>Climate change</p>	<p>Energy efficient/well insulated homes have been mentioned within the DAS as well as water efficient technologies. PH also recognises the inclusion of an Electrical Vehicle Charging Point for each dwelling.</p> <p>PH would recommend the developer keep abreast of any new technologies that would enhance the proposed development should they become available in the very near future.</p>