

About the application

Application number: 2025/92776	
What is the application for?:	Outline application, with all matters reserved, for residential development with
Address of the site or building:	land at, Eastfield, Shepley, Huddersfield, HD8 8HB
Postcode:	DH7 8XL

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
<p>Planning Application Objection – Eastfield Development</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed planning application for new housing on Eastfield, Shepley . My concerns relate to its significant and long-lasting impact on our village, including the loss of farmland and wildlife habitat, the strain on already limited local services and amenities, increased traffic and parking pressure, and the potential harm to a major local employer, Shepley Spring.</p> <p>Loss of Farmland and Impact on Wildlife</p> <p>The land earmarked for development consists of long established green fields that have been actively farmed for generations. These fields provide important habitat for local wildlife and form a vital part of our rural landscape. Once farmland is built on, it is lost forever.</p> <p>Farmers today are under immense pressure. Reduced government support, rising costs, inheritance tax burdens, climate related challenges and the closure of slaughterhouses all contribute to making traditional farming increasingly unsustainable. Many farmers feel forced to sell land to developers as their only means of securing their family's financial future. While understandable, this trend is deeply concerning. Farming is not just an occupation it is a way of life. Farmers do demanding, essential work that many others would find intolerable, yet they continue out of passion and commitment to their land and livestock. If agricultural land continues to be sold for development, the UK will become ever more reliant on foreign imports, leading to higher food prices and weakened national food security. The decline of British farming is a serious issue, and the unnecessary loss of farmland only accelerates this problem. The present government needs to address these issues and make farming profitable. Not build on land but use it for the benefit of the population. Farmers need to be respected by rewarding them for keeping food on our tables.</p> <p>Impact on a Small Village and Strain on Local Services</p> <p>Shepley is a small village with limited infrastructure, and its services already operate at or near capacity. A large new housing development would overstretch essential facilities and undermine the character and functioning of the community.</p>	

Schools: Local schools are already full, and expansion is difficult due to limited space and resources. Additional families will increase class sizes, put pressure on teachers, and may force children to travel out of the village for education.

Medical and Dental Services: Access to NHS and dental care is extremely limited, and residents already struggle to secure appointments. GP services are also under strain with long waiting times. Increasing the village population without a corresponding expansion of medical infrastructure would make these issues considerably worse.

Local Amenities Co-op, Shops, Café, Hairdressers: The village's small scale amenities designed to serve a modest rural population cannot absorb a significant increase in demand without noticeable overcrowding and shortages. Parking around the Co-op and village centre is already limited, and additional residents will exacerbate congestion and reduce accessibility for existing residents.

Traffic and Parking: Traffic volume through the village will rise substantially, particularly around schools, the Co-op, and junctions leading to the station. The increased number of vehicles will raise safety concerns for pedestrians especially children and make day-to-day travel more difficult for current residents.

Train Station: The train station has limited parking and platform capacity. More commuters will strain an already busy service, increase parking difficulties around residential homes and contribute to congestion around Station Road.

Impact on Local Industry Shepley Spring

Shepley Spring is one of the village's most important employers and contributes significantly to the local economy. Any development close to its site must consider the potential consequences:

- * Increased traffic may hinder deliveries and distribution.
- * The proposed land may infringe the bore rights that Shepley Spring has at its disposal. If that were to happen, the company may not be confident in its quality control, which in turn may force the company to consider closure of its site.
- * Residential development could lead to future noise complaints or operational restrictions on a long-established industrial facility.
- * Any constraints placed on Shepley Spring may threaten jobs and economic stability within the village.

Protecting our local industry is vital to maintaining employment opportunities and supporting the community as a whole.

Conclusion

This development poses a serious threat to Shepley's rural character, local services, and long-term sustainability. It risks damaging important farmland, placing unsustainable pressure on village infrastructure, and negatively impacting key local employers. For these reasons, I strongly object to the proposed planning application on Lea Drive.