



I would like to object to the plan for the following reasons.

The site is planned on an area of Green Belt, and despite some spurious claims by the Banks Group, the UK Government policy does not allow this.

The plan also does not take into account the "necessary improvements to local or national infrastructure". Indeed there are no meaningful proposals for such improvements.

Site access to the proposed area is through narrow, quiet residential streets with winding turns. This will cause issues for current residents, their parking, and their children. Further, a proposed one way system is likely to be a danger to road users and pedestrians. The suggested exit, from Lea Rd, is a small road, and steep. In fact it is steeper than current Kirklees policy allows for developments.

The Banks Group proposal makes much of the village's transport links. However, the trains either way are once per hour and have a 43.6% delay record. One of the station platforms is not fully accessible and has a steep descent to the tracks. In addition, there is very poor parking at the station. Any new residents who think there is adequate car parking will find the situation extremely disappointing.

The hourly bus services are equally poor. There are no buses to or from Huddersfield after 18.40, so work commuting will be compromised.

Car traffic on the A 629 is already extremely heavy, and unsafe. There have been several fatal and severe non fatal accidents within a few hundred yards of the proposed exit in the last few years, adding traffic to this congested situation will be extremely dangerous, particularly further south of the village at the Sovereign crossroads, a notorious black spot.

The Banks proposal calls the village Co-Op shop a supermarket. This is misleading. The shop is a local convenience store, much smaller in size than the 280 square metres that defines a supermarket or large store. There is also no designated car park for the shop, with only a few spaces outside on a side road, which itself is right on a difficult three way junction.

The village health centre already has a wide catchment area, with an already considerable amount on pressure on services. An increase of the numbers suggested by the Banks plan would cause a large decline in service levels.

The school is also near to capacity, and with a current development yet to be completed, this would likely bring the school to full capacity, without the addition of children from the Banks development.

Finally, as a major village employer, Shepley Spring, has made a significant development to its manufacturing infrastructure, a heavy investment. Any threat to the water supply, which is drawn from the area of the proposed development, will have a very dangerous impact on the company and its employees. Even Yorkshire Water has confirmed that "the sewer network does not have the capacity to support the size of development proposed".