



I object to this development on the grounds of road traffic safety, negative impact on food security, net zero CO2 targets, environmental impact, and access to services. The junction between Lea drive and Abbey Road South is already very busy with traffic. Lea drive has a ca 1 in 7 slope onto a very busy major road. It is chaotic and dangerous at peak times such as rush hour and school drop off / pick up times. The absence of accident statistics does not take into account the many near misses at this junction. The proposed one way system would add a further ca 200 cars (up to 400 daily journeys) via the very steep exit at Lea drive. This is madness. I do not use this exit because it is hazardous especially in wet or ice conditions, preferring the Knowle exit which has no gradient and good visibility.

The proposed development is on highly productive agricultural land. There are many brownfield sites in Kirklees which should be developed first. 5ha of farmland will produce ca 50te of grain p.a. (sufficient for 80000 loaves enough to feed 1000 families every year). If this development goes ahead this output will be lost forever. This goes directly against the Government's new Agricultural Policy on food security (The path to sustainable Farming, an agricultural transition plan 2021 -2024). This policy demands that Britain's food production should not slip below the current level of 60% self sufficiency. We would then have to import more grain to feed an ever growing population. This would have a negative impact on Britain's already poor balance of payments and leave us vulnerable to supply chain issues and rising food costs. Recent issues such as the war in Ukraine and adverse weather in southern Europe have affected food supply and shown how fragile our supply chains really are.

The development also contradicts Kirklees Council's net zero CO2 target to be carbon neutral by 2030. The proposed 5ha of farmland absorbed ca 10te CO2. Even environmentally friendly houses still generate CO2. Again brownfield sites would reduce this impact.

The area is a valuable green space much enjoyed by the local community. It provides the opportunity to enjoy open spaces and improve our mental wellbeing. There is a mixture of agriculture, rough land, trees and bushes. This is ideal for a diverse mixture of flora and fauna. The farmland birds which call this area home are declining and some are on the red list. Other protected species such as bats and newts can be found here.

The development is above the water extraction aquifer for Shepley Spring a local employer of 300 people. Any impact on this company would be a serious issue. Local services and schools are already stretched. Adding a further 250+ residents will only exacerbate this problem.