

Address: 24, Stonecroft Gardens, Huddersfield, HD8 8EX

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?	No

I object to the planning application on land off Eastfield for the following reasons:

1. The land is part of /adjacent to a SPZ, the source-pathway-receptors in this geology are very complex and it is unknown what impact this development could have on the valuable groundwater . The livelihood of Shepley Spring, and its workforce, depends on the pristine nature of this groundwater, any contamination would render it not fit for purpose. Securing drinking water supplies into the future is paramount as we will encounter more water stress as the impacts of climate change are felt. It is key then to apply precautionary principles, and not allow any development which could endanger the SPZ.

2. This area of land is designated green belt land. It can in no way be described as ancillary or 'grey belt' as it has previously had the benefit of grants to support agricultural crops such as thatching straw. It is clearly valuable agricultural land.

3. Roadway access to this area of land would be very hazardous and any increase in traffic through the Eastfield estate would be very dangerous. A one way system is proposed, this is has inherent dangers - incoming traffic run the risk of coming face to face with trucks from Shepley Spring and having to reverse on to the main road and outgoing cars would have to enter the main road in an area of low visibility and have the dangers in winter of sliding into oncoming traffic down an extremely steep slope. The estate roads were not designed for this level of traffic , many young children live there and would no longer be able to safely play outside their own homes. Also the material the roads are made from is poor quality and not be able to sustain the heavy construction vehicles or ongoing high levels of traffic.

4. Existing sewage and water infrastructure cannot accommodate the increase in population. The sewage system in the area is not designed for this increase in population. We frequently see surcharging manholes on Abbey Road in wet conditions, this would increase due to increasing the amount of paved area in the village. Building swales may attenuate some of this water but these would be built in the area on/next to the SPZ and could potentially concentrate any contaminated run off from the newly developed area and hence create an additional risk to the groundwater. This is a very real risk, as all too often people pour unsuitable substances into the surface water drains or make misconnections from their homes to the wrong sewer. In addition there has been no investigation to conclude that the sewer network from Shepley to the Huddersfield STW can take the additional load from these houses. Inappropriate spilling from Combined Sewer Overflows is now widely known; has any investigation taken place to ensure that this development would not add to any known problems on the trunk sewer running along the valuable wildlife corridor of Fenay Beck? If not this needs investigating before any planning permission can be granted.

5. Lack of capacity within existing schools/ Drs / dentists to support such an additional increase in population. This would lead to people having to commute to get to these provisions. Although there is a bus and train provision in the village these are infrequent and very limited in their destinations, so people would have to travel using their cars, adding the the carbon footprint of the development.

In summary the damage this development could do to the environment, jobs and livelihoods and the health, safety and wellbeing of the existing population of Shepley far outweighs the benefit of building homes in this location; I hope Kirklees MBC will make the right decision to refuse the application.