

## 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>I am writing to formally object to the above planning application on the grounds that the proposed development would have significant adverse impacts on local traffic conditions, school capacity, healthcare access, and the ecological integrity of the area—particularly concerning aquifer protection.</p> <p>1. Traffic and Highways Impact</p> <p>The proposed development will substantially increase vehicular traffic on an already heavily burdened road network. Current peak-time congestion regularly causes delays, queueing at junctions, and spill-back onto adjoining residential roads. The addition of a large number of new dwellings—each generating multiple daily trips—will:</p> <p>Exacerbate congestion during school runs and commuting periods. Increase risks for pedestrians and cyclists, particularly at junctions not designed to accommodate higher volumes. Place additional strain on roads already showing signs of wear, with no clear mitigation plan or infrastructure upgrade proposed.</p> <p>2. Insufficient School Capacity</p> <p>Local primary and secondary schools are already at or near capacity, with many families unable to secure places at their nearest school. Admission pressure has been a documented issue in recent years, and there is no evidence of planned expansion sufficient to absorb the demand created by this development.</p> <p>Approving this application without firm commitments to new school places would result in:</p> <p>Larger class sizes and reduced educational quality. Longer travel distances for children forced to attend schools outside the area. Increased traffic as more parents resort to driving to distant schools.</p>	

The proposal provides no credible strategy for addressing this foreseeable and significant strain on educational infrastructure.

### 3. Strain on Healthcare Services and GP Access

Local GP practices and health centres are already overstretched, with many residents experiencing long waits for appointments and difficulty registering with new practices. Additional population growth without proportional expansion of healthcare services will:

Increase appointment waiting times

Reduce the availability of preventative care and urgent same-day appointments

Place further pressure on community health services, which are already under-resourced

The planning application contains no binding provision to expand GP capacity or to create new healthcare facilities.

### 4. Ecological Concerns and Aquifer Protection

The site lies within (or near) a sensitive hydrological area that contributes to the local aquifer, which is vital for groundwater replenishment and long-term ecological health. Disturbance to this land through excavation, increased impermeable surfaces, and construction activities poses several risks:

Reduced natural groundwater recharge, increasing long-term water-supply vulnerability.

Potential contamination from construction runoff, chemicals, and increased surface pollutants.

Loss of natural habitats dependent on stable hydrological conditions.

Increased flood risk due to altered drainage and reduced permeability.

### Conclusion

For the reasons outlined—significant traffic impacts, insufficient educational and healthcare capacity, and unacceptable ecological risks—the proposed development is unsustainable and contrary to the principles of responsible planning. Until comprehensive and enforceable mitigation strategies are developed, I urge the planning authority to refuse the application.