

DC Admin

From:
Sent: 21 December 2025 16:29
To: DC Admin
Subject: Planning Objection - Ref: 2025/92776

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Planning Objection

Application Ref: 2025/92776

Location: Shepley, Huddersfield

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to formally object to the above planning application.

The proposed development constitutes inappropriate development within designated Green Belt land, contrary to the National Planning Policy Framework and the adopted Kirklees Local Plan. The applicant has failed to demonstrate the very special circumstances required to justify development in the Green Belt.

Local residents, including myself, do not believe reasonable non-Green belt alternatives have been exhausted. General housing need, which Shepley does not require, is not a sufficient justification for releasing green belt land. There are many alternative development locations in Huddersfield which would not impact a small village setting.

Impact on Traffic and Road Infrastructure

Shepley already experiences a significant amount of traffic, particularly at peak times on local roads and at key junctions within and around the village. The main road

through the village is already incredibly busy with vehicles of all sizes, including large HGVs as it is a through route from Huddersfield to South Yorkshire. All other existing roads in the village are narrow, rural in character, and not designed to accommodate the level of traffic that would be generated by a large-scale housing development.

A development of 110 proposed houses is likely to add additional 200+ vehicles to the local area, this is a significant amount of extra traffic in the small rural village.

Furthermore, the additional heavy traffic required for the development, vehicles working and delivery materials to site will negatively contribute to the congestion and damage to the current infrastructure.

The proposal would lead to a substantial increase in vehicle movements, worsening congestion, increasing air and noise pollution, and raising serious road safety concerns for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and existing residents. There is insufficient evidence that the local road infrastructure can be upgraded to cope with this increase without causing unacceptable harm.

Additionally, the 2 cross roads, to include that of Cross Lane and Carr Lane and the larger junction of Holmfirth Road, Lane Head Road, Barnsley Road and Penistone Road by the Sovereign Petrol Station, are from no more than 1km away from the proposed development. Both of these junctions have seen an increase in serious traffic collisions, leading to injury and a recent death due to the nature of the junction and the volume of traffic. Creating a large housing development nearby would undoubtedly make this junction more dangerous. There has yet to be any concrete plans put in place to maximise road safety and minimise the risk of collisions at these locations.

Pressure on Schools

Local primary and secondary schools serving Shepley and surrounding areas are already operating at or near capacity. The application fails to provide clear, secured,

and deliverable proposals to ensure sufficient school places are available for the number of new residents likely to result from the development.

Reliance on future funding mechanisms or off-site provision does not provide certainty that education infrastructure would be delivered in a timely manner, placing unacceptable pressure on existing schools and the students who already attend.

Healthcare Capacity and GP Provision

GP surgeries and other healthcare services in and around Shepley are already under significant strain. The proposed development would increase demand for GP appointments, dental services, and wider NHS provision without adequate evidence that additional capacity would be delivered alongside the development.

The lack of guaranteed healthcare infrastructure would negatively impact both new and existing residents, contrary to sustainable development principles.

Unsustainable and Car-Dependent Location

The site's Green Belt location means residents would be heavily reliant on private vehicles to access employment, education, healthcare, and services. This conflicts with both national and local policies seeking to reduce car dependency and promote sustainable development.

Harm to the Green Belt and Prematurity

The scale of the proposal would significantly reduce the openness of the Green Belt and introduce urbanising features that would permanently ruin the rural character of the area, and cause permanent loss of our countryside. Granting permission through a planning application, rather than through a comprehensive Local Plan review, would undermine the plan-led approach to development and set a harmful precedent for further Green Belt erosion in Kirklees.

Every month in 2025 there has been road works throughout Shepley, with burst water mains. Greenbelt land provides natural drainage. Adding additional houses will also increase the strain on the current drains and infrastructure, increase surface run off and increase the risk of flooding in the area.

Farming and farmland is critical to maintaining our rural villages and the British countryside should be protected!

In the words of Prince William during his speech Groundswell “Farming... is the stewardship of the land, the health of our soils, the purity of our water and the resilience of our rural society”.

Conclusion

When considered cumulatively, the harm to the Green Belt, the severe pressure on traffic and road infrastructure, schools, and healthcare services, and the unsustainable nature of the location clearly outweigh any claimed benefits. The applicant has not demonstrated the very special circumstances required to justify this development.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that Kirklees Council refuse planning application 2025/92776.

Yours faithfully,

1a Jubilee Avenue, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8HX

Optional Strengthening Tips

If you want to make it even stronger:

- Add specific roads or junctions in Shepley that are already congested
- Mention named GP surgeries or schools if you know they are full
- Submit photos of congestion as supporting evidence

If you'd like, I can:

- Shorten this to fit an online character limit
- Make it more technical (planner-style)
- Rewrite it in a more personal resident voice

Just tell me 👍