

DC Admin

From:
Sent: 02 April 2026 21:21
To: DC Admin
Subject: OBJECTION - Planning Reference: Eastfield 2025/60/92776E

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Kirklees Planning Department,

I am writing to object to the proposed development at Eastfield (Planning Reference: Eastfield 2025/60/92776/E).

I have lived in Shepley on and off for most of my life, spanning 58 years, and care deeply about the village and its future. I am not opposed to new housing in principle. However, I believe this proposal raises significant planning concerns and represents a disproportionate level of development for a village of Shepley's size.

Firstly, I have serious concerns about the impact on the local highway network and road safety. The development is expected to introduce approximately 250 additional vehicles into the area. Roads such as Station Road, Cross Lane and surrounding junctions already experience congestion and safety concerns, particularly around the zebra crossing and key crossroads. Additional traffic from a development of this scale risks significantly worsening these existing issues and increasing danger for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers.

Secondly, the proposed access arrangements raise safety concerns. The suggested exit via Lea Drive involves vehicles travelling down a steep incline onto the main road. In winter conditions, with ice or snow, this could present a serious hazard. In addition, sight lines when turning onto the main road are already limited in places.

Thirdly, there are concerns regarding the cumulative pressure on local infrastructure. Local schools, GP surgeries and community services already operate near capacity. The introduction of several hundred additional residents will inevitably place further strain on these services, and it is not clear how the necessary infrastructure improvements would be delivered.

There are also environmental considerations. The site lies close to Shepley Spring, which is within a protected water source area. Construction and long-term use of the site could present risks to water quality. Furthermore, sewer capacity is already an issue locally, with overflow incidents recorded in recent years. Adding a development of this scale could worsen these problems if the existing infrastructure is not significantly upgraded.

Finally, the scale and location of this proposal raise concerns regarding the loss of Green Belt land and the erosion of the rural character that defines Shepley. The site contributes to the open setting of the village and its development would reduce the openness that the Green Belt is intended to protect.

Shepley has already supported a number of housing developments in recent years, including new development sites at Abbey Road and Marsh Lane. While housing growth is important, it must be proportionate and supported by appropriate infrastructure. In my view, this proposal would place an unsustainable burden on the village.

For these reasons I respectfully ask that the council carefully consider these concerns when determining the application.

Yours sincerely,