

About the application

Application number: 2025/93572	
What is the application for?:	Outline application with all matters reserved, bar vehicle access into the site,
Address of the site or building:	Land South of, Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth, Huddersfield, HD8 8NN
Postcode:	

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 object to the proposal due to Green Belt conflict, landscape harm, ecological risk, unsustainable location, and road safety impacts.</p> <p>1. Inappropriate Green Belt development</p> <p>The site lies within designated Green Belt land in the Local Plan. The proposal is not appropriate development and would harm the openness of the rural landscape.</p> <p>The field forms part of the rural setting and identity of Upper Cumberworth. Development would cause permanent loss of undeveloped countryside which separates the village from surrounding farmland.</p> <p>2. Harm to village character and landscape</p> <p>Upper Cumberworth is a small rural village and properties surrounding the site are individual detached / semi-detached homes with large gardens. The proposal introduces estate style housing and apartments that are completely out of character.</p> <p>The site is within the Pennine foothills landscape, with rolling fields, hedgerows, and woodland. This landscape contributes significantly to village identity and would be permanently altered with the urbanisation of open countryside.</p> <p>3. Trees, ecology and ancient woodland</p> <p>The site contains TPO trees including one centrally located but removed on the plans.</p> <p>It's adjacent to Upper Dearne ancient woodland which dates back to the 1600s and has recorded archaeological remains and established flora and fauna (bats, deer, and birdlife)</p>	

and drainage).

Lighting, noise, and drainage changes affecting watercourses risk disturbance to this habitat and conflict with biodiversity net gain / national protection of ancient woodland.

4. Unsustainable location

The village has poor public transport and limited services, with most over 2km away in Denby Dale beyond normal walking distances.

Existing walking routes are unsuitable for daily use with narrow pavements, sections between Upper and Lower Cumberworth requiring people to enter the road, poor lighting towards Denby Dale, and fast traffic on all routes.

Pavements are unsuitable for wheelchairs or families with children. Residents in the village are heavily car dependent, making the site unsuitable for major housing growth.

Local GPs, NHS dentists are already stretched. The development would add a significant population increase, placing additional pressure on these services.

Village parking is already very difficult, especially near the school and post office during opening hours, adversely affecting residents.

Repeated water main failures on Barnsley Road indicate ageing infrastructure with limited capacity for significant expansion.

5. Road safety

The surrounding rural road network is unsuitable for the scale proposed:

- A635 high volume, high speeds, HGV and quarry traffic
- Dangerous accident locations at Carr Hill Road and Sovereign junctions
- Narrow rural roads used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders
- Poor pavement infrastructure
- Existing parking congestion around the school and post office

Traffic surveys undertaken during school holidays do not represent normal conditions and an additional 123 homes would significantly worsen safety risks.

Conclusion

The proposal is inappropriate Green Belt development in an unsustainable location and would harm rural character, ecology, and highway safety. The application should therefore be refused.