

**Sent:** 09 February 2026 18:02  
**To:** DC Admin  
**Subject:** Planning application Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E

I am writing to strongly object to this proposed development:

The site is designated green belt land, in the adopted local plan. Green belt exists for a reason – to protect villages like ours from exactly this kind of encroachment. This application does not demonstrate the ‘very special circumstances’ required to justify building on protected land and as a young adult, I feel very passionate about this and the future. Why not build on all the brownfield and Greyfield sites first?

Beyond policy, this land is part of the identity of our village. Walking in these fields, seeing wildlife in abundance, living alongside ancient woodland is part of this special place. This character would be permanently and irreversibly harmed.

I am particularly concerned about the impact on an adjacent ancient woodland. Once damaged, it cannot be recreated. Ruining the landscape for young people and future generations. The application does not clearly demonstrate how root systems, habitats, and long-established trees will be safeguarded. The loss of wildlife habitat would be devastating.

Drainage and sewerage are ongoing problems locally. Roads have been closed repeatedly due to drainage works and there are clear capacity issues. My partner lives in Skelmanthorpe and repeatedly I have had to take the long way round due to road closures. It is difficult to understand how the existing system can cope with a development of this scale.

The proposal does not feel balanced, proportionate or respectful to the area’s environmental importance. I am asking the Council to think about young people like me who want a future here, please protect the land and refuse the application.