

DC Admin

From:
Sent: 11 February 2026 17:31
To: DC Admin
Subject: Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E

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36 Cumberworth Lane
Upper Cumberworth
HD8 8PA

Please do not publish my name.

I wish to submit a strong objection to the proposed development. I refer to all other objections and want to be recognised that I agree with all the points raised by them. In addition to these I wish to add the following points:

- 1.
- 2.
3. This proposed development would directly contravene our current Government's
4. **Active Travel England Objective,**
5. into which they are investing up to £300m. This is a strategy launched in June 2024 which aims to increase walking/ cycling/ wheeling journeys made by the public by 50% by 2030 in line with active travel and sustainable development targets. This is our government's
6. 'ambition' and Active Travel England (ATE) have produced a [Planning](#)
7. [Application Assessment Toolkit](#) for planners to submit, this has not been
8. provided by Vivly Living Limited. I would like to request that the Local Planning Officers use the toolkit and provide residents with the results.
- 9.

Upper Cumberworth is poorly paved and is unsuitable for wheelchairs or mobility scooters. The only fully paved road is Barnsley Road towards Denby Dale which is extremely busy and dangerous, there are no bicycle lanes and the paving is uneven. The only other village within walking distance by paved road is Lower Cumberworth, however, the path is dangerously narrow and not wide enough for a wheelchair. Hence, current and future residents are reliant on car transport to access doctors, dentists, middle or high schools and all other amenities not provided by the village post office/ store. As such this plan would introduce circa 289 people to the village who are unable to walk, wheel or cycle to villages, towns or cities for education, work, shopping or leisure.

- 2.
- 3.
4. Ancient Woodland and Development Impacts.
- 5.

Whilst Vivly Living Limited have provided supporting information surrounding current planning policy detailing a 15m 'buffer' around the woodland boundary, Forest Research (funded by the

government and in alignment with the Forestry Commission) are currently assessing the impact of development on nearby habitats. This research is being undertaken as the impact has thus far been unknown due to evidence gaps and complex issues: 'Our aim is to deliver evidence to underpin future policy, practice, and industry guidance critical to safeguarding ancient woodlands whilst supporting responsible development and woodland use.'

The review is currently taking place and it investigates issues such as the impact of public (and companion animals) on woodland ecological health and quality. Footfall, rubbish, noise, walking off footpaths, the use of bikes to name a few all potentially have a detrimental effect on the vegetation and soil. These changes impact the waterways, plant species, nesting environment and wildlife habitat.

Ancient woodland can not be replaced, the planning department holds a duty of care to protect this precious land and until evidence can be provided to prove that the woodland would not be adversely affected by circa 289 additional people including their children plus dogs, this planning should not be granted.

Sometimes we rely on the people whose job it is to maintain and responsibly manage our communities to make choices that are right for the people within them. Accountability and trust are placed in those who have the power to make decisions on our behalf to protect our natural spaces and promote our health and wellbeing.