

## 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 wish to object strongly to the proposed development of 123 houses on green belt land on Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth for the following reasons:</p> <p>The primary reason is the unnecessary use of green belt land, particularly land that is productive farmland. The proposed development borders ancient woodland which is irreplaceable. The damage caused by noise, light and air pollution to the flora and fauna of the woods amounts to nothing less than eco-vandalism. For example, an increased number of people and dogs walking in the woods, damaging plants, scaring wildlife, increased dog fouling and predation from pets. According to the charity Cats Protection around 25% of UK households own a cat, and a 2022 study showed that each rural cat on average, kills 34 birds and small mammals per year (Countryside Alliance website) This will mean the proposed development being responsible for the deaths of around a 1000 birds and animals annually, a significant impact on the woodland. The field on which the development is proposed also supports wildlife, with deer and bats among the regular visitors. If the development goes ahead these habitats will be damaged or destroyed forever.</p> <p>Additionally, the infrastructure of the village would not be able to cope. There is already limited parking in the village and it gets extremely busy around the Post Office. We will have thousands of extra car journeys on Barnsley Road on which people speed regularly, with the proposed entrance to the development opening straight onto it. Traffic is already due to increase as a consequence of the granting of the planning application for the quarry at Bromley Farm with dozens of HGV trips everyday. Also, we have two very dangerous junctions in or near the village - at the Sovereign and Carr Hill Road, both of which are poorly sighted. There are frequent accidents and almost daily near misses. Carr Hill Road already acts as a rat run for people to miss the Sovereign Junction and this will only increase.</p> <p>The amenities and facilities in the village are also not suitable for such a large expansion. There are already problems with water, for example, the sewer system that runs across the proposed site overflows into Park Dike when there is heavy rainfall, and low water pressure in some parts of the village. An extra 100 houses will put</p>	

and low water pressure in some parts of the village. An extra 123 houses will put unsustainable pressure on this system. In addition, transport facilities are poor with frequent train cancellations from and to Denby Dale and a sporadic bus service, which stops very early evenings meaning most people will use their cars regularly, increasing the congestion mentioned above.

Finally the sheer scale of the development will significantly increase the size of the village by around 30%, destroying its character. The centre of the village is a conservation area and the village has grown organically over time with a range of housing types and styles. The developer's proposal will result in a huge housing estate of identikit houses that are completely out of character with the village. The developer's assertion that Huddersfield needs new housing stock is disingenuous, as it is not needed in the HD8 area to this extent. This will result in a housing estate essentially full of commuters as there are simply not enough jobs in the surrounding village for the number of people who would be moving into the village, further adding to the traffic problems outlined above. There are plenty of other areas within Kirklees, and around the Huddersfield area that are brownfield or wasteland which could supply sufficient housing for the local area in places where housing is needed more and these sites should be used first. People move to the countryside for the peace and tranquility, and to be around nature. The proposed development threatens to destroy this for the current residents and ironically, for those who would seek to move to the countryside and live in the new development.

The proposal should therefore be rejected.