

Address: 5, Rowgate, Huddersfield, Hd8 8xh

### About the application

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| 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

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| Type of comment: An objection   |    |
| Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?   | No |
| <p>This proposal intends to build on Green Belt. Regardless of how the developer attempts to classify the land, it is by its definition, Green Belt. It is actively farmed, it is currently yielding crops that are sustaining sheep.</p> <p>Building a development here, which would increase the village population by a third would effectively join Cumberworth to Birdsedge. This, coupled with proposals in Birdsedge, Denby Dale and the several built and more planned in Shepley, would turn these distinct villages into an "urban sprawl", the very thing Green Belt was established to stop. The delight of seeing wildlife in this area would be gone - and gone forever. Building here is an irreversible natural disaster. A complete destruction of biodiversity, including some protected species of wildlife.</p> <p>The proposed site would back onto an ancient woodland. You cannot build a (minimum) 123 houses adjacent to ancient woodland and not impact it. A proposal that intends to build within 10 metres of the woodland is abhorrent, and contravenes the required buffer zone of 50 metres.</p> <p>Upper Cumberworth is a small village. Increasing its populous by an additional 30% would significantly impact (for the worse) our existing services and facilities. The proposed site location is impractical, with poor access to services either on foot or via public transport.</p> <p>The development would, using national statistics, bring an additional 300 people (approx) to the village, with an additional 160 motor vehicles, maybe more with works vehicles, 2 and 3 car families, etc. Barnsley Road / A635 is already a very busy road. The Sovereign Junction and Cross Lane are notoriously busy and there have been several accidents, including fatalities, in the past three years. An additional 160 vehicles and 158,000 journeys will exacerbate this and logically, the number of accidents will only increase. Kirklees has already approved the quarry development, which allows an increase in HGV traffic (up to 120 journeys a day) through the village. This obvious increase in traffic will not only statistically lead to an increase in accidents</p> |    |

This obvious increase in traffic will not only statistically lead to an increase in accidents but also in air pollution (in close proximity to a primary school and children walking to the school) as well as a significant degradation in the state of the road infrastructure.

The road adjacent to the proposed development has been dug up several times THIS YEAR. There is a sewer and drainage issue around the land. The development reduces the chance of water draining naturally, which it already cannot do, as it seeps onto the road. Destroying natural drainage will likely lead to both drainage and sewer capacity issues.

I understand Kirklees is allocating sites for development in 2026/2027. This proposal therefore feels premature and should not be considered before the plan-led review has been carried out.

Kirklees, in its own words is looking to provide "greener, safer streets to revitalised historic buildings.....to family-friendly public spaces". This development is a contradiction of your own 'blueprint'. The development will only lead to the destruction of Green Belt, destruction of ecology, the devastation of our biodiverse habitat and wildlife and the impact on already saturated local services, plus the strain on the road infrastructure.

I implore you to consider this during your local plan review and complete that review, objectively, before rejecting this application.

Yes, there's a national housing shortage. Regenerate and fill the 2,334 Long Term Empty properties within the borough first.