

Sustainability and Transport.

Active Travel England(Standing Advice Note) ('the Note') recommends for development approval there should be 'high-frequency' bus stops within 400m or a rail station within 800m. The existing bus service on Barnsley Road is not high frequency and it takes an hour to reach Wakefield. Denby Dale rail station is well over 800m from the proposed site ('the Site') being 1800m distant and has limited services. The pavement leading to Denby Dale is narrow - under 2 metres, dark in places and often partly obstructed by overhanging branches from adjacent properties. It does not meet the requirements of 2.6 of the Note. Shops in Denby Dale are 2000m from the Site contrary to the measurements in table 1 in paragraph 2.3.2 of supporting document id1120452. The cooperative petrol station is 1500m from the Site, not 1000m.

Upper Cumberworth has a primary school with limited availability, a post office and shop plus a church and pub. There is no doctors' or dentists' surgery, nursery school, village hall/community centre and very limited employment.

The Transport Assessment (id1120451) at 4.1.4 claims that the Site is ideally located to encourage walking trips for a range of destinations including access to employment, education and leisure trips including shopping. I do not believe that residents will walk to Denby Dale or Shepley from the Site. The assessment at 6.1.3 estimates that 44 vehicles will be departing from the Site at morning peak time. Assuming, say 1.5 vehicles per household (which is lower than the average for HD8), out of a total of over 180 vehicles will less than one quarter be leaving bearing in mind the limited facilities in the village? Likewise only 40 vehicles are calculated as returning in the evening peak. We are told that the demographic is young people and families and definitely not retired people so the majority of residents are likely to use their own vehicles to access work, take children to and from nursery and school etc.

The noise assessment has been carried out prior to work commencing at the nearby quarry. 120 vehicles daily will be passing the Site including 60 laden vehicles turning right onto Barnsley Road and then travelling uphill past the Site contributing to noise and pollution.

Increased traffic from the Site will lead to more congestion on Barnsley Road and the adjoining 'rat runs' - Cumberworth Lane, Carr Hill Road, Heator Lane and Rowgate. The Site does not meet the requirements set out in Policies LP3 and LP20 of the Kirklees Local Plan as it is not a sustainable location with good access to public transport.

For these reasons, please do not grant permission for this development.