

**Sent:** 18 February 2026 16:10  
**To:** DC Admin  
**Subject:** Planning ref: 2025/60/3572/E

Objection to planning consent for 123 new homes on Green Belt land in Upper Cumberworth.

Reasons for objection are as follows:

Following on from the recent consent for further quarrying in the area, residents will also have to contend with many issues if consent goes ahead for this development. These are:

- The development is in an ecologically sensitive area and will result in permanent loss of wildlife habitat (already under threat from climate change); loss of area of ancient woodland; a likely loss of archaeological finds. A neolithic arrowhead and possible medieval water mill already discovered. Obstruction of rural views thus taking away character.

This should be sufficient to condemn future development on Green Belt land forever, but in addition there are the following practicalities:

- Reduced quality of life for existing residents due to a considerable increase in traffic volume, not forgetting the approved HGVs to/from the quarry. Inevitably, the road junctions at The Star, The Sovereign and top of Carr Hill Road will be even more hazardous, increasing the accident rate.
- Increased pollution and parking problems near the school and Post Office
- An increase in traffic volume on all roads which are already affected by nearby new developments in Skelmanthorpe, Shepley and Denby Dale.
- Increased difficulty for pedestrians around the school and Post Office and when crossing busy roads. The pavement in Carr Hill Road does not extend far and is inadequate for walkers who in bad weather have to either walk on muddy verges or in the road.
- Danger for both horse riders and cyclists will be increased.
- There is likely to be an increase in the crime rate because an expanding community offers further opportunities for criminals.
- Loss of village atmosphere because of congestion in Upper Cumberworth when it virtually combines with Denby Dale.

-Local amenities and facilities will be strained and will put more pressure on an outdated water supply system. I understand that foul smells emanate from leaking sewage pipes, placing the health of those nearby at risk.

-The local school, medical and dental services are already stretched to capacity.

It is unfair to impose increased levels of danger, air and noise pollution on existing residents who will likely be expected to pay an increase in council tax. Brown or grey field sites should be considered first as these can be improved by housing development, e.g. the land in Savile Road, Skelmanthorpe.