

## DC Admin

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**From:**  
**Sent:** 19 February 2026 22:53  
**To:** DC Admin  
**Subject:** Objection to planning application - Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E

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### Objection to planning application - Upper Cumberworth 2025/60/93572/E

#### Green Belt

This proposed estate/development lies within designated Green Belt. There are plenty of sites for housing across Kirklees which do not entail destroying the rural environment. There are no special circumstances or exceptions here which would justify such environmental damage. This plan does not lie in allocated development land. It is rural agricultural land.

#### Local Area/Character

Upper Cumberworth is a fairly small village, and this proposal could increase the size of the village significantly. Upper Cumberworth does not need expansion.

The rural views from the A635 Barnsley Road and from Park Lane would be ruined forever, as would the whole character of the community should this go ahead. I love the rural outlook, which is one of the reasons we live here.

#### Protected Ancient Woodland/Habitat/Biodiversity

This agricultural land which is still growing crops (cereal last year and fodder for sheep currently) is right next to ancient woodland and even with a "buffer zone" there would be harm to the biodiversity and habitat of the area. More people, cats and dogs, noise, light – all of these would have a harmful and damaging effect.

The land itself provides habitat and feeding for small mammals, birds and prey species. A concrete and tarmac covered estate provides nothing to the environment other than worse drainage and more pollution.

#### Utilities

Repeated episodes of reduced water pressure, mains water leaks and sewage blockages and leaks illustrate the pipework is already unable to cope. The road near the Star pub has been dug up 4 or 5 times last year. We also have pretty regular power cuts.

#### Local services

Using Government statistics, this proposal could bring in the region of 290 new people, 90 of school age. These people would require access to GPs etc. There are already difficulties with appointments at Shepley surgery - this would make things worse for existing patients and would put more pressure on a service which is already very busy. The only shop in the village is the local Post Office, so most shopping will be done by car (or delivered by van). Travel to school and work will also be primarily by car. No school is in walking distance (most pupils at Upper Cumberworth first school already seem to arrive that way. I imagine trying to cross the Barnsley Road would put off most parents of small children even if capacity exists there.

#### Transport

Buses are limited in terms of usefulness. Buses into Huddersfield take nearly an hour and to Wakefield or Barnsley it is not far short of that, with service timings not being frequent. To walk anywhere can be frightening as pavements are narrow (or not there) and there are large HGVs and cars travelling at speed.

#### Roads/Traffic

This development would add to the traffic burden and the likelihood of "accidents" particularly as the new proposed quarry entrance is near the proposed entrance to this. Most households these days seem to have 2 cars. Pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders will all be at more risk on roads like Carr Hill Road, where we already see a great deal of speeding and no pavement. A similar situation for Cumberworth Lane which is narrow. Using Government figures an extra 158,000 car journeys a year (well over 400 a day) will result on already poor roads with "accident blackspots" like the Sovereign Crossroads. Queues there at peak times can be 30 vehicles with 10-minute waits to reach the junction. How much worse will this be with more cars and journeys? Rat runs like Carr Hill Road have similar queues and waits.

Please support our community – we are all Kirklees residents – by rejecting this plan.

Please do not publish my details online.