

Address:

### 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?	No
<p>Please redact my name and address.</p> <p>I would like to object to this development on the following grounds;</p> <p>The proposed buffer of 15m is insufficient to protect the ancient woodland neighbouring the site. The latest advice shows that a 50m buffer is required and it's important to note the species that rely on this woodland and the surrounding open land, including but not limited to deer, hedgehogs, bats, tawny owls, kestrels, buzzards, and the hairy wood ant, which is classified as near threatened due to habitat loss.</p> <p>Due to the topography of the fields, the developer's intention to allow surface water to run off will mean this heavily contaminated surface water will be flowing through the fields and directly into the woodland, polluting the local area and endangering the species that live there.</p> <p>Yorkshire Water have already addressed that there is insufficient infrastructure to support a housing estate. It is important to note that there is an additional unmapped sewer that runs through the gardens of Dearnfield adjacent to Barnsley Road; YW have confirmed this is a shared sewer, but I am unsure whether this has been taken into consideration on their comments as, if it has not been, it is an additional sewer that YW are responsible for maintaining on top of their already limited infrastructure. There have also been numerous leaks on Barnsley Road which have been fixed repeatedly but often reappear a short time later. Many residents will attest that their water pressure is problematic, meaning you cannot run a washing machine and a tap at the same time. More houses will only worsen these issues for existing residents.</p> <p>The traffic modelling provided by the applicant fails to consider the quarry which has now been approved, but is yet to become operational. In the 10+ years we have lived here, we have seen the traffic on Barnsley road increase to such an extent, it is no longer possible to hold a conversation stood in the back garden of the houses along</p>	

longer possible to hold a conversation stood in the back gardens of the houses along Dearnfield due to the noise from the road. The quarry will add another 120 HGV's per day, and this development has the potential to add several hundred more cars to this road. The road noise and pollution for houses neighbouring Barnsley Road will worsen considerably, and as per the quarry's modelling, The Sovereign junction is already over capacity at rush hour, and functionally cannot accommodate more traffic.

Upper Cumberworth is a very small community; at the last census in 2021, the population of Upper Cumberworth was cited as 663. This proposal has the potential to increase the population by an absolute minimum of 123 to 350 people by conservative estimates, this represents a population increase of 19% - 53% respectively . The community simply does not have the resources to accommodate such a large and rapid population increase, especially when you consider the large number of other developments in the local area (including the sites in Denby Dale, Shepley, and behind Scissett Swimming baths). All of these residents are competing for the same resources in terms of access to doctors appointments, hospital treatment, opticians, pharmacies, dental care and schooling, with medical care becoming increasingly harder to access outside of an emergency due to demand. Upper Cumberworth School has a total capacity of just 124 places, and will not be able to cater to existing residents and a development of this size. It is also important to consider the lack of local resources; there is one shop/post office which operates normal 9-5 hours, and two pubs within a reasonable walking distance for residents of Upper Cumberworth. To access a pharmacy, late night shop, restaurant or other amenities are all either a 40min round trip walking or require access to a car due to the poor availability of public transport in the area. This really points to this village being wholly unsuitable for such excessive expansion, unless other amenities are going to be provided for all residents to benefit from.

Additionally, this land is not marked on the local plan, and it is important that sites marked for housing, or brownfield sites and derelict buildings are prioritised for development ahead of green belt land. These sites typically have more provisions near by, and are better suited for population growth than tiny rural communities.

Lastly, I would also like to note that despite Vivly's assertions to the contrary, they chose at every opportunity not to engage directly with the local community. They did not attend any of the meetings held to allay concerns of residents or discuss their proposals, and residents with banners protesting the proposed development saw their private property defaced.