

## 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?	Yes
<p>I am writing to formally lodge my strongest possible objection to the proposed development of 123 houses on the green belt farmland at. This proposal represents a significant threat to the environmental integrity of our local landscape, the preservation of irreplaceable ancient woodland, and the stability of our already overstretched local infrastructure.</p> <p><b>1. Protection of Green Belt and Farmland</b> The primary purpose of Green Belt designation is to prevent urban sprawl and safeguard the countryside from encroachment. This proposal directly contradicts those core principles.</p> <p><b>Loss of Agricultural Identity:</b> The conversion of productive farmland into a high-density residential estate permanently strips the area of its rural character.</p> <p><b>Setting a Dangerous Precedent:</b> Allowing 123 homes on this site would undermine the "special circumstances" requirement for Green Belt development, making it nearly impossible to defend neighboring fields from future speculative applications.</p> <p><b>2. Irreparable Harm to Ancient Woodland</b> The proposed site borders [Name of Wood, if known], a designated ancient woodland. These ecosystems are irreplaceable habitats that have evolved over centuries.</p> <p><b>Ecological Buffers:</b> While the plans may suggest a "buffer zone," the proximity of 123 households introduces significant "edge effects," including light pollution, noise, and domestic pet predation, all of which disrupt the delicate biodiversity of the woods.</p> <p><b>Hydrological Impact:</b> Large-scale construction alters natural drainage patterns. Any shift in the water table or soil runoff could prove fatal to the ancient root systems of the woodland, leading to long-term decay.</p> <p><b>3. Infrastructure and Sustainability</b> The most immediate concern for current residents is the total lack of infrastructure to support a population increase of this magnitude.</p> <p><b>Transport and Road Safety</b> The local road network, particularly [Name of Road], is already operating at peak capacity. Adding approximately 200–300 additional vehicles will: Exacerbate existing "bottlenecks" during rush hour. Increase the risk of accidents on narrow rural lanes ill-equipped for heavy construction traffic or increased commuter flow.</p>	

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#### Public Services

Our local services are currently at a breaking point.

Healthcare: The local GP surgery is already oversubscribed, with waiting times often exceeding [Number] weeks.

Education: [Name of Local School] is at full capacity. This development provides no credible plan for how the influx of children will be accommodated without further degrading the quality of education for existing pupils.

#### 4. Flooding and Environmental Risk

The removal of natural absorption provided by the current farmland will significantly increase the volume of surface water runoff. In an era of increasingly volatile weather, the "concreting over" of this land poses a direct flood risk to lower-lying properties in the village. The proposed Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) are often insufficient substitutes for the natural water management provided by open fields.

#### Conclusion

This development offers no tangible benefit to the existing community. It sacrifices irreplaceable green belt land and threatens an ancient woodland, all while placing an unsustainable burden on roads, schools, and clinics.

I urge the planning committee to uphold the protections afforded to our Green Belt and refuse this application in its entirety. The long-term environmental and social costs far outweigh the short-term gains of this speculative housing project.