

About the application

Application number: 2026/90310	
What is the application for?:	Erection of 37 dwellings with associated access, parking, landscaping and creati
Address of the site or building:	land off, Sunny View, White Lee, Batley, WF17 8FP
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

I wish to formally object to Planning Application 2026/62/90310/E.

The proposal would result in the loss of existing urban green space within Batley (WF17). This conflicts with national planning policy, particularly the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework which require planning authorities to encourage the effective use of land by prioritising previously developed (brownfield) land before releasing green or open space for development.

Batley has a well-documented supply of previously developed land within the urban area which demonstrates that development on green space is not necessary. For example, planning permission has recently been granted for the construction of 19 homes on a vacant brownfield site on Healey Lane, adjacent to Healey Junior, Infant and Nursery School. This redevelopment of an empty site shows that housing and development needs can be accommodated through regeneration rather than the loss of open land. ()

In addition, there are several other brownfield opportunities within Batley and the WF17 area which illustrate the availability of suitable development land, including:

- Vacant or underused land along Bradford Road and surrounding commercial premises that previously held outline development permissions.
- Former commercial and industrial premises within the Batley town centre and Upper Commercial Street corridor, including vacant buildings such as the former West End public house site and associated land to the rear.
- Under-utilised industrial or storage yards in the Soothill and Carlinghow areas which historically contained mills and textile-related uses.
- Previously developed sites around Wellington Street and other town centre fringe locations where buildings have been demolished or remain vacant.

These sites represent typical previously developed land within Batley and are precisely the type of locations national planning policy expects to be prioritised for regeneration and redevelopment.

Urban green spaces play a critical role in the health and wellbeing of communities. They provide environmental benefits including biodiversity support, urban cooling, surface water absorption and opportunities for recreation. The permanent loss of such spaces undermines environmental sustainability and community wellbeing. Once developed, these areas cannot realistically be replaced.

Allowing development on accessible green land while brownfield land remains available risks setting a harmful planning precedent. It would weaken the brownfield-first approach promoted by national policy and could encourage further incremental loss of green space across Batley.

The applicant has not demonstrated that the availability of previously developed land within the Batley area has been adequately considered before proposing development on green land.

For these reasons the proposal fails to demonstrate compliance with the principles of sustainable development, effective land use and protection of open space.

I respectfully request that Kirklees Council refuse Planning Application 2026/62/90310/E and instead prioritise redevelopment opportunities on previously developed brownfield land within Batley.