

Address: 89, Enfield Drive, Batley, WF17 8DR

About the application

Application number: 2026/90413	
What is the application for?:	Permission in principle for erection of one dwelling
Address of the site or building:	land off, Enfield Drive, Carlinghow, Batley, WF17 8DR
Postcode:	WF12 0LS

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	No
I am writing to formally object to the proposed development at land off Enfield drive, application number 2026/90413. Safety and disturbance concerns The proposed access route is an existing narrow public footpath, clearly not designed or suitable for vehicle use. Converting the public footpath into an access road would create significant safety risks for pedestrians, there is no clear or adequate segregation between pedestrians and vehicles. In its current form, the proposed access point would fundamentally change the character and purpose of the path, removing a safe and quiet pedestrian route that is currently valued by the local community to access the open urban green space and beyond. This creates an unsafe shared surface arrangement in a space that is too narrow to function effectively, placing pedestrians at unacceptable risk. The access point joins Enfield Drive at an awkward angle, with limited visibility and insufficient space for vehicles to enter and exit safely. The constrained nature of the access will force vehicles to edge out into the carriageway, increasing the risk of collisions. Furthermore the public footpath is directly next to a property wall (Number 81) with minimal separation, the close proximity of passing vehicles would lead to increased noise, disturbance, and general disruption, particularly where vehicles would navigate the bend in close proximity to the property. Additionally due to the narrow width, constrained alignment, and lack of turning space, it is highly questionable whether emergency and service vehicles could safely and effectively access the site. This raises serious concerns regarding safety and the practical functioning of the development. Loss of Greenfield Land and Conflict with Local Plan Policy (Adopted 07 February 2024)	

Loss of Greenfield Land and Conflict with Local Plan Policy (Adopted 27 February 2019)

The application site lies within designated Urban Green Space under the Kirklees Council Local Plan. Policy LP61 states that development resulting in the loss of Urban Green Space will only be permitted where it is clearly demonstrated that the land is no longer required to meet local needs and does not make an important contribution to visual amenity, landscape character or biodiversity value.

This site clearly performs those functions. It provides an important visual buffer within an already densely built-up area, offering openness and relief from surrounding development. It contributes positively to residents' health and wellbeing and forms part of a wider network of adjoining fields, maintaining landscape continuity and a genuine sense of escape from the urban environment.

The land is demonstrably rich in wildlife. Herons, foxes, birds of prey and bats are regularly observed, with bats frequently seen flying from neighbouring gardens directly into the site during summer evenings.

For these reasons, the proposal conflicts with Policy LP61 and fails to justify the loss of designated Urban Green Space.