

DC Admin

From: Local Development
Sent: 27 July 2026 07:52
To: DC Admin
Subject: FW: Application Number: 2026/60/91494/E

Sent: 24 July 2026 16:58
To: Local Development <Local.Development@kirklees.gov.uk>
Subject: Application Number: 2026/60/91494/E

Dear Sirs,

I would like to submit a formal objection to the above planning proposal for 70+ new houses to be built opposite the school on productive agricultural land in the small village of Birdsedge. The development would represent an approximate 40% increase in the number of homes in the village virtually overnight. Not only would this permanently alter the whole character of the village but would overwhelm the local infrastructure. For instance, the Yorkshire Water Board apparently have no plans or funding for an upgrade to their services to the village. Consequently, it is likely the local sewerage network would be unable to cope with such a relatively large development. Would the local school be able to accommodate such a change, would the adjoining road become a hazard with such an increased number of vehicles and what medical support would be provided?

I realise that it is a Government plan to increase the number of social homes being built but they have also recently made changes to the "Sustainable Farming Incentives" by introducing their "Farming Roadmap" which, among other issues, wishes to protect productive agricultural land. There is an obvious conflict between protecting "productive agricultural land" and the pressure to build houses under Government direction.

Locally, agricultural land is swallowed up for building when "brown sites" are left as untidy eyesores. With this current proposal in Birdsedge there is no natural eastern boundary so there is a risk of further encroachment of "urban crawl". There is a similar application for building approximately 120 new houses on good agricultural land off Barnsley Road, in Upper Cumberworth. Neighbouring Kirklees, there has been a large development on good agricultural land on the A629 above Penistone with related problems of infra-structure. I accept that these developments represent useful commuter belts for such as Kirklees but as land is taken the farms are lost and never return.

Yours sincerely,

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