ROBBIE MOORE N

Member of Parliament for Keighley and Ilkley





As you may have heard, Newett Homes have today announced that they intend to put forward a planning application to Bradford Council to construct a further 72 houses in Silsden behind Aireville Crescent, with access being taken off Middleway. You can visit www.johnsonmowat.co.uk/public-consultations/middleway-silsden to find out more.

I am writing to you to express my deep concern and frustration regarding this proposal as I feel that Silsden is being completely inundated with new houses, with no thought at all being given to improving local infrastructure.

The announcement of this development comes less than 24 hours after the approval of another 44 houses which are to be built off Hainsworth Road, not to mention the live planning application currently being considered by Bradford Council for Persimmon Homes to build 140 houses off Bolton Road.

The current state of our infrastructure in Silsden simply cannot accommodate the rapid expansion that these housing projects bring to our community. Building further houses in Silsden without any due thought and consideration to improving our local infrastructure and community facilities will only have a detrimental impact on us all. Further housing development will only increase traffic congestion on our already busy roads. Our local school, doctors' surgery and other vital infrastructure will also be negatively impacted. It is also incredibly disappointing to see a constant greenfield first, rather than a brownfield first approach when it comes to new housing development across our area.

I am also deeply disappointed to see Newett Homes have failed to set up any sort of public meeting to discuss their housing proposals and to address residents' concerns directly. You may have seen from their literature that at this stage, they only intend to do an online or 'write in' consultation, which I believe is wholly inadequate. I have therefore contacted Newett Homes to urge them to organise a full 'in person' public consultation.

Please be assured, it is one of my key priorities to fight against unsustainable housing developments. I am deeply concerned that Silsden is getting a rough deal. Labour-run Bradford Council's draft local plan, which sets out their next 15-year housing strategy is also not helping, having identified Silsden as a "local growth centre" which can be used to address the Bradford Districts housing needs.

I will do everything in my power to ensure that developments are not built without the approval of local people.

If I can be of any assistance to you on this, or any other issue please do contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Robbie Moore MP for Silsden

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Standing up for Keighley and Ilkley

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