

21 November 2022

Dear...

We are getting in touch with you regarding the outstanding planning application from the Russell Foster Youth League to locate a new football centre in Leamside.

Having been in touch with many residents in the area when this planning application was lodged with Durham County Council, we are very aware that many of you have very serious concerns about the suitability of the proposed location. We all still share these concerns, and wanted to draw your attention to the new information that has now been registered on the planning portal.

In the intervening months, Durham County Council planning officers have registered some serious concerns with the applicant, following the number of objections that were received. A further traffic assessment has been requested and this has now been uploaded onto the council's website. You can find this information here:

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=QRUNFZGDFJ600>

We believe that the new information does nothing to alleviate the genuine concerns that residents in Leamside and West Rainton have about this development. Should you wish to make another objection, we believe the follow points are particularly important:

- The number of weekend vehicle movements per hour is still too high for the road network at an extra 360 per hour.
- The applicant has not provided anything beyond assurances that the number of pitches in use will be limited.
- No solution is provided to the lack of public transport to the site.
- The applicant has stated they cannot accurately model the impact of the development on the Lambton View/ Rainton Gate junction.
- No real assessment has been made of the impact on Station Rd.
- The traffic assessments once again assume that the Lambton View/ Rainton Gate junction has traffic signals. An application's acceptability should not be contingent on another.
- The application contains no assessment of the need for, or impact of, external lighting of the facility.
- There is still no recognition of the impact this development will have on the amenity of local residents.

The closing date for objections following this new information is only a few weeks, so I would urge you to lodge a further objection with Durham County Council as soon as possible. You can do this by emailing planning@durham.gov.uk or writing to:

Mr Steve France
Senior Planning Officer
Durham County Council
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UL

We hope that this information is helpful. You will all be aware of recent accidents on the local road network that highlight how unsuitable this development is. Please rest assured that we will continue to vigorously oppose this scheme. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Kelly Foy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'M' and 'F'.

Mary Kelly Foy, MP for the City of Durham

Councillor Bill Kellett, Sherburn Division

Councillor David Hall, Sherburn Division

Councillor Avril Wallage, Chair, West Rainton and Leamside Parish Council