

Consultation Response from KC Public Health

2023/91405 Part of former St Luke's Hospital site, Blackmoorfoot Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, HD4 5RA

Erection of foodstore (class E) with associated access, parking, servicing area and landscaping

Date Responded: 29th January 2024

Responding Officer: Louise Muhammad

Responding Ref: 2023/91405

This response is from the Public Health Improvement Team.

In Kirklees, the Public Health Improvement Team has developed a rapid health impact assessment (HIA) framework and guidance tool for planning applications. The purpose of this is to assess the broad health impacts of proposed developments. The rapid HIA is a material consideration in the Kirklees Local Plan and is listed in the Kirklees Validation List.

The Public Health Improvement Team will carry out its responsibilities, as a consultee for the Kirklees Planning Authority to:

- Apply an agreed rapid HIA screening [methodology](#) at the pre-application / application stage, to identify if a rapid HIA is required for a proposed development.
- Review and respond to a submitted HIA, focusing on the health improvement themes relevant to local and national planning policy and the public health priorities which impact on the immediate and surrounding areas of the proposed development.

The Public Health Improvement Team do not provide specialist technical advice or feedback on development proposals, such as around waste, noise or air quality. This responsibility lies with other council teams and their responses will be provided separately.

Crosland Moor Ward is one of the five most deprived wards in Kirklees, as ranked using data on Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

Local intelligence shows that the following health indicators within Crosland Moor Ward, where the proposed development is taking place, are higher than the Kirklees average.

- Levels of obesity (adults and children)
- Rates of adults feeling lonely or isolated – OVER 65
- Rates of adults feeling lonely or isolated – UNDER 65

The submitted rapid health impact assessment has been reviewed. The Public Health Improvement Team have identified further measures and considerations surrounding the development issues, as outlined in the table below, which look to enhance the proposed development and further improve health and wellbeing outcomes for people and place. We kindly request that the measures set out in the table for each development issue are incorporated into the submitted Rapid Health Impact Assessment and implemented should the application progress.

Development issue	Further measures and considerations
	The applicant has not submitted the standard HIA template nor comprehensively cross-referenced between their own submitted HIA and other submitted documents, i.e., by giving specific page numbers for relevant content. In addition, they have only addressed 2 of the 8 areas specified in Kirklees

	<p>Council guidance that are relevant to this kind of development. Additionally, further information has been provided under headings that are not part of the guidance or template (lifestyles, vulnerable groups etc). Although the information is interesting, it is surplus to requirement. Taken together, this makes it difficult for us to assess whether particular areas of focus have been adequately addressed and this should be taken into account when reading this response.</p>
<p>Construction phase</p>	<p>A number of assessments have been submitted (eg Air quality, Noise Impacts etc) and are comprehensive in that they identify potential health impacts and relevant mitigations.</p> <p>A further full CEMP is recommended to include details of how the site will be kept safe/secure during construction phase and how ongoing community communication channels are continued during the anticipated 9mth construction phase so issues can be addressed etc. It is encouraging to see community consultation and feedback was sought and the responses have been overwhelmingly positive according to the applicants analysis.</p> <p>In addition, PH recommend that construction worker health & wellbeing is taken into consideration during this phase eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe cycle storage • Access to facilities for example to reheat food/take a break. • Workers informed about wider support that is available within Kirklees that may assist with personal health goals/aspirations etc: <p>For example, Kirklees Wellness Service (https://kirkleeswellnessservice.co.uk/) provide support around smoking cessation, healthy weight, mental health, etc.'</p>
<p>Housing</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Active travel and sustainable transport</p>	<p>Supplementary documentation submitted includes a comprehensive travel plan-although this topic is not covered in their HIA specifically.</p> <p>It is evident that the location of the proposed development offers good opportunities for local residents to access the store on foot up to a certain radius. Thought has been given to the various entry points and the use of pathways/drop kerbs etc to make it convenient and encourage walking to the store for those living a reasonable distance. In</p>

	<p>addition, cycle parking is available. The location is served by a frequent bus service and the nearest train station is within reasonable walking distance.</p>
Access to open and green spaces	<p>The site will include some soft landscaping appropriate for a development of this kind-therefore making it attractive and aesthetically pleasing. It is noted that although two trees will need to be removed as part of the construction site-the majority of them will remain and can be enjoyed by customers visiting the store.</p>
Access to healthy and affordable food	<p>The provision of fresh produce and healthier options/grocery items at more affordable prices are very evident as there is no similar retail outlet in the vicinity (as Lidl is a very popular discount supermarket brand and will particularly benefit households with lower incomes).</p> <p>As obesity is identified as a higher than Kirklees average in the ward-PH welcome an opportunity should it be appropriate to meet with Lidl management to explore how the design, layout/ and promotions can encourage healthier choices amongst customers.</p>
Community and personal safety	<p>This was not addressed in any of the documents the PH officer scanned (please see comments under further measures/considerations). The bullets below outline areas that PH recommend are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to mitigate against anti-social behaviour during construction phase (out of hours of operation) • Suicide prevention measures (trees on site) and a relatively low height roof. Please refer to this information and guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/suicide-prevention-suicides-in-public-places • How the carpark can be secured during hours outside operating hours-resident has expressed concern around car racing/anti-social and noise nuisance • Road crossings nearby (this may have been covered in other documentation)
Employment and economic vibrancy	<p>This topic has been addressed within the applicants HIA-both during construction and operational phases and an estimate of real FTE jobs and the potential impact on indirect job creation/support via supplier chain etc.</p> <p>PH would really encourage the developer to support employment opportunities for local/Kirklees residents where at all possible.</p>

	<p>To support this commitment further, we would recommend the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider local labour and supply chain opportunities (e.g., through Meet the Buyer events) from the construction phase onwards. - Liaise with local skills, training and employment programmes led / commissioned by Kirklees Council, as well as local apprenticeship schemes to offer building and trades opportunities, as the proportion of NVQ level 1 & 2 are low amongst local residents. - Request all (sub) contractors to support positive employment opportunities and support health and wellbeing in the workplace. <p>PH would also welcome an opportunity to meet with Lidl (if appropriate) or encourage them to explore a range of shift patterns/working hours that may better suit certain demographics of the population: single parents/the school day, students etc.</p>
Community cohesion and social support	<p>This type of development does not necessarily lend itself to seating areas outside however a bench inside the store-beyond the checkouts may be appropriate and enable some social connections briefly whilst awaiting taxis, lifts, bus times etc particularly for those who are socially isolated.</p> <p>However, an aspect of community cohesion can be achieved via inclusive recruitment practices that encourage a diverse range of applicants to apply for jobs. In addition, the range of foods and cultures represented is another way in which Lidl can demonstrate commitment to these overarching principles.</p> <p>PH would encourage some further exploration generally by the applicant.</p>
Climate change	<p>It is evident that considerable thought has been given to how the design of the actual building can contribute to the Climate change/sustainable/energy efficient agenda.</p> <p>The identification of both active and passive design that enables certain elements to adapt inline with future demand/technologies is noted.</p> <p>The inclusion of roof solar panels, Electric vehicle charging points, energy efficient lighting and timings, reverse vending (generated from the refrigeration units), striving to be zero landfill in future as well as</p>

purchasing 100% renewable energy are all welcomed.