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As a resident and Father of two children who attend a local school, I'd first like to raise my objection at the conduct of this process. The obstacles placed in the path of residents to make representations, both in terms of location, information about proceedings and the availability of reports and evidence is nothing short of disgraceful.

The failure of the council to uphold their responsibility to residents by withdrawing strong objections, based on evidence, at such short notice has left residents without any effective means to contest this development.

Whilst the full list of objections I could raise to this development is extensive, for the benefit of this process I will concentrate on what I see as 4 critical areas.

Air quality

It's indisputable that the citing of a development of this size with a single exit adjacent to a school will increase the volume of cars and consequently, congestion, outside the school.

There will therefore be an increase in vehicle emission pollution and a deterioration in air quality. This will be exasperated by the removal of trees in the local area. The schemes alluded to by the developer to mitigate this by contributing towards air quality improvement are blatantly, pardon the pun, a smokescreen.

The only viable alternative to the car for commutes outside of Glossop, given the location and paucity of bus services, is by train, I'm quite sure none of the developer's schemes include railway investment of any consequence.

The A57 does not have capacity for physical infrastructure such as cycle lanes, nor do other routes out of Glossop, therefore let's be honest, no measure proposed will have a discernible impact on the levels of pollution at the school site.

The removal of this objection by the council is nothing short of an abdication of responsibility for it's citizens and I would be extremely interested to see the justification for this decision. The motivation for this project is clearly profit over people, plain and simple. Money talks and it would seem to me that the threat of potentially costly legal action has intimidated the council into the withdrawal of their objections.

Services

3 schools local to the development, Dinting School, Simmondley School and Charlesworth School are all at capacity. This has been confirmed in the past week by the school's themselves. Glossopdale, the largest local secondary, has had to commission an extension and yet will still be oversubscribed, as will St Philip Howard, the only real local alternative. Children are having to go outside of the area to receive a secondary education as a result.

The size of Glossopdale was based on census information and population forecasts which proved to be entirely inadequate and significantly underestimated demand. It would appear that this development has done similar when asserting that there are adequate school places in the area for the families on the development.

Similarly, dentists and doctors, amongst other services, are stretched, with a lack of availability and long waits for appointments. Whilst this is a national issue, exasperating the problem locally with further development is clearly not in the interests of local residents.

Congestion

Congestion on the A57, through Dinting and up Mottram Moor to the M67, is notorious. A survey in 2010 found the junction of the A57 and the M67 to be the most congested in Manchester and the route has been the subject of lobbying since 1971, such is the blight caused by the congestion. A significant portion of that traffic runs along Dinting Vale, past the proposed development and is frequently gridlocked outside the school gates.

Any contention that congestion isn't an issue and that the road network can easily accommodate the extra vehicles produced by this development is simply not credible.

As a local resident, I am all too aware that a trip from home to Tesco to do a grocery shop, a journey of 2 miles, can easily take 45 minutes in standard traffic. Any roadworks on either of the 2 routes out of Glossop towards Manchester bring the town to a virtual standstill. The road network is demonstrably over capacity already and any proposal that would add more traffic is irresponsible in the extreme. The construction work itself will cause immense disruption and once complete, the additional vehicles will cause further misery for already long suffering residents.

Nature

Whilst clearly not a priority of those charged with planning decisions, I wish finally to mention nature – I understand that the developer's proposal, accepted by the council, is to reserve some land and plant some trees in Chinley. Well, I'm sure that will be a great consolation to the local residents knowing that they can enjoy some green space a 10-mile drive away rather than on their doorstep.

Glossop is losing green space at an alarming rate, with well documented implications for mental health which will put further strain on the already stretched local services and serve to rob Glossop of it's character and heritage. Once again, the motivation for this decision very clearly has nothing to do with the quality of life for residents and is entirely due to greed.

I have read that the purpose of this enquiry is to ensure a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations. In light of the objections raised, rejecting this appeal is the only decision consistent with that purpose.