

19th October 2020 Dear Secretary of State,

I formally request that application Reference: 19/03143/FUL made to Sheffield City Council by Avant Homes be called in for your determination.

I am aware that as the Government Environment Minister, you have the authority to do this. I am also aware that I need to make the case that this planning application is not only detrimental to the local area but also is not in the National interest. With this in mind I request that you look at this web-site: www.ecological-owlthorpe.org The site shows that Ecological Owlthorpe has all the elevations that fulfil the requirement of an upstream nature-based solution protecting the environment. I watched with interest your interview with Sophie Ridge shortly after the floods of last winter <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bbYXEDczL-U> In this interview you explain that there are funds for areas such as Ecological Owlthorpe to be protected as an upstream nature-based solution to stop downstream flooding. To my knowledge, my local Labour MP Clive Betts and Sheffield City Council have not applied for such funding. I realise that protocol requires me to address my concerns to my local Labour MP Clive Betts. I have done this on numerus occasions. Unfortunately, Mr. Betts has a history of not listening to his constituents. In the EU Referendum a huge majority of his constituents voted to leave the EU but Mr. Betts continues to vote to stay. In the last general election, I was selected to be an observer to the count of votes in Sheffield South East. In the boxes counted from the South of Sheffield Mr. Betts was falling behind the Conservative candidate. It was not until we counted the boxes from the East of Sheffield that he caught up eventually retaining his seat. The reason I mention this is because the demographic of the voters in the East of Sheffield live in social housing and voted for Labour. Please look at the video footage of the last Sheffield Council Planning Meeting with regard to Advent Homes reference number 19/03143/FUL. In this meeting Mr. Betts MP presses the case for more density of housing and more social housing. I personally think this is for political reasons as he is perhaps hoping to increase the Labour vote in South Sheffield. I also request that the Government Legal team look at the legal document attached to the Sheffield City Council Planning Meeting where planning permission was refused to Advent Homes Reference Number 19/03143/FUL. As you can see in the video footage, traffic problems were discussed at length by Sheffield City Planning Committee, and in particular by Councillor Chris Rosling-Josephs who lives in the local area. After the vote the planning officer explains to the Council that if traffic problems were included in the Legal Document "it would make the site sterile for further development". This has left the door open for Advent Homes to make an appeal to the Secretary of State for Housing which they did on 30th September. Regarding this, the deadline for public objections is 3rd November 2020 to holly.dutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk The public inquiry date is 12th January 2021 and will last four days. I intend to make my objection to the Planning Inspectorate and hereby formally request your intervention with a view to Calling In the application.

Yours faithfully, Michael Meredith