

Submission ID: [REDACTED]

Significant Impact on local business in Mears Ashby. - Tourism

I would like to object to this monstrosity of a plan on many counts which have already been presented. However, in particular the tourism factor has not in my opinion been considered enough.

North and West Northamptonshire councils launched their joint Tourism policy Jun 25 - And I quote 'which aims to raise the profile of the county's fantastic history and heritage attractions, sports teams and cultural assets, also its beautiful rolling countryside, rivers and waterways. There is now a greater emphasis to establish the area as a vibrant must-visit destination, offering unique experiences and accommodation options serving our best blue and green areas'. One example of this is Beckworth Emporium where I know you have visited in your site visits in December 2025. Beckworth has had two major refurbishments in the last 5 years due to its increasing popularity. It has increased its car parking spaces to 510 and can seat 400 in its restaurant spaces. It is a prime attraction in the area and is extremely popular. The applicants Environmental Statement Appendix 17.1: Tourism and Recreation Receptor Tables GH6.3.17.1_A : -Quotes: 'Immediate views of Site C, potential loss of amenity and desirability. Likely impacts on accessibility and delay due to traffic from Scheme'. A further 20 locations are to be assessed in the ES. I have been unable to find clear mitigations on these in the high volume of reports even though I've tried VERY hard. Please can these be made clearer and can the applicant confirm it has conducted an open and honest meeting with Beckworth or its owners Blue Diamond? The BESS C build at this location will cause a serious material impact on this business and surrounding areas. Please decline this part of the application. (and all of it if possible)
Thank you