

## Comment

**Consultee** Miss Catherine Thornley (1250908)

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**Event Name** Darlington Local Plan 2016-2036 (Regulation 19)

**Comment by** Miss Catherine Thornley (1250908)

**Comment ID** DBLPPS328

**Response Date** 16/09/20 10:25

**Consultation Point** Policy H 10 Skerningham - Strategic Site Allocation (Strategic Policy) ([View](#))

**Status** Processed

**Submission Type** Email

**Version** 0.4

**Question 1b**

**Do you consider that the Local Plan sound?** No

### Question 2

**Do you consider that this part of the Local Plan is unsound because it is not: (tick all that apply)**

- Justified
- Consistent with national policy

### Question 3a

#### Your Comments

**Please give details of why you consider that this part of the Local Plan is not legally compliant or unsound or fails to comply with the Duty to Cooperate.**

There will be significant harm to the character and appearance of the area of Skerningham based on this plan.

Darlington Borough Council identified the area as the 'Jewel in the Crown' in the 'Rights of Way Improvement Plan' because of the very high grade quality countryside. This local plan seeks to destroy this Jewel, which will have an adverse affect on the recreational area and therefore the residents of the Borough. Further destruction of our countryside is unsustainable for plant life and wildlife.

The plan and loss of green space conflicts with Policy ENV4, especially in point G. Indeed the Darlington Landscape Character Assessment from 2015 stated that that Skertingham is unlikely to accommodate any further development without altering the character.

The area is remote from the town, and does not provide first choice connectivity for cyclists and pedestrians. Therefore Policy H10 does not demonstrate principles contained in Policy IN1.

#### Question 4

##### Changes Sought

**Please Note** your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested change, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations based on the original representation at publication stage. There is the opportunity to attach Word or PDF files before submitting your comment.

**After this stage, further submissions will only be at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues identified for examination.**

**Please set out what change(s) to the Local Plan you consider necessary to make it legally compliant or sound. You will need to say why this change will make the Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording for any policy or text.**

To make this plan sound I would expect that there be no conflict with policy ENV4, the Darlington Landscape Assessment or policy IN1. If Policy H10 is unsustainable and these conflicts cannot be removed then Policy H10 should be removed from the Local Plan.

#### Question 5

##### Attendance at Examination Hearings

**If your representation is seeking a change, do you consider it necessary to participate in the examination hearings?** No, I do not wish to participate at the examination hearings

#### Question 6

**Do you request to be notified that the Local Plan has been submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination under section 22(3) of the regulations and to be notified of the adoption of the Local Plan?** Yes, I request to be notified