

## Comment

<b>Consultee</b>	Mr Terry Binks (1250935)
<b>Email Address</b>	[REDACTED]
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<b>Event Name</b>	Darlington Local Plan 2016-2036 (Regulation 19)
<b>Comment by</b>	Mr Terry Binks (1250935)
<b>Comment ID</b>	DBLPPS437
<b>Response Date</b>	17/09/20 08:32
<b>Consultation Point</b>	Policy H 10 Skertingham - Strategic Site Allocation (Strategic Policy) ( <a href="#">View</a> )
<b>Status</b>	Processed
<b>Submission Type</b>	Email
<b>Version</b>	0.4
<b>Question 1a</b>	
<b>Do you consider that the Local Plan is Legally compliant?</b>	No
<b>Question 1b</b>	
<b>Do you consider that the Local Plan sound?</b>	No
<b>Question 1c</b>	
<b>Do you consider that the Local Plan complies with the Duty to Cooperate?</b>	No
<b>Question 2</b>	
<b>Do you consider that this part of the Local Plan is unsound because it is not: (tick all that apply)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Positively prepared</li><li>. Effective</li><li>. Justified</li></ul>
<b>Question 3a</b>	
<b>Your Comments</b>	

**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.**

I object to the Skerningham plan due to the enriched variety of wildlife the area supports. And the benefits the area has for our mental health and fitness. An area of natural beauty which was once called a jewel in the crown for Darlington Borough Council.

What sets Skerningham apart from the rest of the town is it's varied landscape. Nowhere else is quite like it. Farmers work the land supplying food for the whole community. That land also provides food and shelter for ground feeding birds. The meadows support butterflies and moths, many of which are on the decline due to habitat loss. Another reason to save this land. The many hedgehogs that divide the land provide food and shelter for many species. Ponds are inhabited by many frogs, toads and the protected great crested newt.

The River Skerne runs through the heart of Skerningham. The area often floods taking the pressure of the river down stream. Any changes to the river in this area could have serious consequences.

The greatest asset to Skerningham is the community woodland. It's an area enjoyed by many people and wildlife. The wood is exceptional due to its mixed variety of trees. Some very old and rare. The new plantation growing along side the old wood is thriving. It also helps to soak up the river water when it floods.

Developing on this land will change the whole eco system of the area. Pollution levels will rise. The River Skerne could flood further down stream affecting many homes. Traffic levels will increase to an unmanageable extent, even if new roads were built.

This whole development goes against The Healthy New TownS - Design Principles as published in the Darlington Borough Local Plan.

#### **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.**

I suggest that the Policy H10 Skerningham Strategic Allocation to be withdrawn from the Local Plan.

Any development on this site will go against the Healthy New TownS - Design Principles

#### **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