

Comment

Consultee	J Shearn (1174762)
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Event Name	Darlington Local Plan 2016-2036 (Regulation 19)
Comment by	J Shearn (1174762)
Comment ID	DBLPPS120
Response Date	14/09/20 09:50
Consultation Point	Local Plan Vision (View)
Status	Processed
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.4

Question 2

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

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.

The report is lucid. Provisions for future development have been considered with due regard to National and European legislation, housing and business requirements, and is sympathetic to the needs of wildlife, habitats and the green corridors that already exist. The strategy is sound inasmuch as it meets its own intentions for planning development. What the strategy has not planned for is the new reality that we are finding ourselves in Post Covid, Post Brexit and with increased anxieties about the environment. In other words the strategy meets its objectives but lacks vision.

What is the new reality for Darlington?.

1. Environmental concerns that **demand a change in our mode of transport.** Trends being actively pursued by the Government.
2. Potential for **high unemployment.**
 - 1 **Increasing obesity** in children and health issues in adults that are in part being addressed by exercise, indoor and out.
 - 2 Intermittent work patterns and home working which whilst impacting the town centre will allow for **more leisure, sport, running/jogging/cycling .**

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.

How should these be addressed?

Plenty of **open spaces** to provide for increased leisure such as festivals, outdoor cinema, music and theatre events (do we know how long Covid will be around? And can the market square host all events?) .

People Highways. Attractive tree-lined routes that will allow people to jog ,walk, cycle to and through the town to where they need to go. (If these are not planned for now as cycle roads have not been - it is much harder to install afterwards).

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Event Name	Darlington Local Plan 2016-2036 (Regulation 19)
Comment by	J Shearn (1174762)
Comment ID	DBLPPS121
Response Date	14/09/20 09:50
Consultation Point	Policy H 10 Skertingham - Strategic Site Allocation (Strategic Policy) (View)
Status	Processed
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.5
Question 2	

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

Question 3a

Your Comments

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The development in the north-east of the town will have a new road giving vehicular access to the town centre. It makes no provision for cycle routes or People Highways so no encouragement is being given to people to run/jog/walk into the town from the north west. Also no provision has been made for any sizeable green space.

In the Appendix it states that 'Darlington has a high level of open space for a Borough of its size'. Perhaps this is the reason the Plan has made no provision for any new parks, open green spaces or allotments and yet a vast number of new houses are to be built in and about Darlington. Will this increased population have access only to the current green space provision?

Can the Plan be justified as being the most appropriate strategy to take us forward to 2036?

I think a few amendments might be made.