

Response ID ANON-VDDE-RP59-K

Submitted to **Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan**

Submitted on 2021-01-07 17:05:56

About you

Are you responding as an: individual, group / organisation, agent?

Individual

Individual

What is your name?

Individual name:

Kirsty Archer-Thompson

What is your email address?

Individual Email:

[REDACTED]

What is your address?

Address line 1:

[REDACTED]

Address line 2 :

[REDACTED]

Address line 3:

Town / city:

[REDACTED]

Postcode:

[REDACTED]

What is your contact telephone number?

Contact number:

[REDACTED]

Proposed Local Development Plan Menu

Where would you like to go?

Quick Comment / Supporting Information

Quick Comment / Supporting Information

Leave a quick comment about the Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan, or planning and development in general.....

Quick Comment:

Objections /comments on proposal for Netherbarns development, AGALA029

In a professional capacity, I have been working at Abbotsford for six years now, most recently on a secondment leading the anniversary preparations for Scott's 250th birthday across 2021 and 2022. I have worked tirelessly to ensure government, press and key stakeholders nationally and internationally will shine a spotlight on the Scottish Borders and most specifically on Abbotsford itself in these vital years to garner maximum economic benefit for the region, and celebrate Abbotsford's position as a lynchpin of the local tourism economy. These initiatives include ambitious land art and aerial filming projects, a major TV documentary and other high profile interventions that are designed to mark a step-change in the site's profile for the longer term and increase visitor numbers. A housing development, ineffectively screened by an aging and vulnerable strip of woodland, completely undermines this investment and transformational potential at a time when the crisis of Covid-19 has been a catastrophe for the tourism industry.

My other key point is that Abbotsford is built on naturally sloping ground and the site's paying visitors actually perceive the view across the Tweed toward Netherbarns from the first floor of the building as it appears from the back of the house, including the world-famous Library, where the whole room's orientation and interior design is framed around the elevated views across the river toward the opposing bank. Sight lines and the visual impact of this development have not been considered from this elevated position, the most historically sensitive aspect that there is from this grade A listed building. This view of the Tweed from the

key public rooms on the first floor of the house is what the Borders' many tourists actually pay their money to see and to photograph, and development on this land would therefore do immeasurable and irreversible harm to one of the area's key businesses and one of the most important sites of built and natural heritage in Scotland, a site that is poised to shine brighter than ever before over the next decade of development, investment and economic opportunity.

I implore you to reconsider development on this land for the reasons stated above.

Do you wish to submit supporting information?

Submissions:

No file was uploaded

Where would you like to go now?

Submit your response to the consultation (Exit)