

Archived: 25 January 2021 07:45:26

From: [REDACTED]
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To:

Subject: Consultation Response to Draft Scottish Borders Local Development Plan

Sensitivity: Normal

Attachments:
[REDACTED]

CAUTION: External Email

FAO Forward Planning

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find attached SAVE Britain's Heritage's comments in relation to the **Draft Scottish Borders Local Development Plan** currently out for public consultation.

Don't hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss our comments, and I'd be very grateful if you could add SAVE Britain's Heritage to your consultee communications list for this consultation and keep me informed of any future decisions regarding it.

Best wishes,

Ben

Benedict Oakley
Conservation Officer

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CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Forward Planning,
Scottish Borders Council,
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By email to: localplan@scotborders.gov.uk

Our reference: 21019

21st January 2021

FAO Forward Planning Team

Site Allocation AGALA029, Netherbarns: Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan.

SAVE Britain's Heritage objects strongly to site allocation AGALA029, Netherbarns in the Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan. We consider the allocation of 45 new homes in the setting of the Category A listed Abbotsford House to be inappropriate and we support the grounds for objection set out by the Abbotsford Trust.

Abbotsford is a national shrine of world renown and its rescue and vesting in a preservation trust required a huge and sustained effort by many individuals and heritage bodies over a long period. In [listing the house and grounds at Category A](#), Historic Environment Scotland note that Abbotsford "is one of the most important 19th century buildings in Scotland."

The setting of the house is critical to Abbotsford's historic significance and the long-term benefit of its restoration and opening to the public. We consider this site allocation for up to 45 homes in the immediate setting of the house will cause clear and substantial harm to this nationally protected site by day and by night and must be withdrawn.

Should the council be minded to approve this site allocation, we should request the case be called-in by ministers at a public hearing. We trust this will not be the case, and formally request the Local Planning Authority withdraws this site from its Proposed Development Plan in favour of investigating alternative sites to meet housing demand.

I trust these comments are useful to you and I ask that you keep me informed of further developments regarding public consultation on the Proposed Scottish Borders Local Development Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Benedict Oakley
Conservation Officer