

21 January 2021

Scottish Borders Council
Forward Planning Team

Dear Sir / Madam

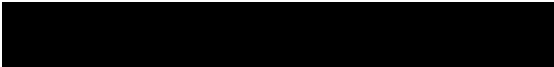
Planning application for houses in the sight lines of Abbotsford House

I write to object in the strongest possible terms to this application. As the Council will know, Walter Scott chose the site for his house because of its view. I am a retired English teacher and all too aware of the importance of this view to Scott as revealed in his novels and his poetry. On a number of occasions I have taken school pupils to Abbotsford and they have seen the view as described in the literature they had studied. You can imagine their excitement.

Planting trees will not help. What is important is the scale of the view, the way it seems to go on and on. I realise one cannot 'buy' a view in today's terms, but the importance of Walter Scott to Scotland as a whole but in particular to the Borders is incalculable. Since the wonderful refurbishment of Abbotsford House had brought a very large increase in visitors to the region, it would be a great pity to do such damage to its environment.

I urge you to reject this application.

Yours faithfully



Grace Durham