

Response ID ANON-VDDE-RA2Y-1

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

Submitted on 2021-01-23 18:00:09

About you

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

Individual

Individual

What is your name?

Individual name:

M Cripps

What is your email address?

Individual Email:

[REDACTED]

What is your address?

Address line 1:

[REDACTED]

Address line 2 :

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:

The Biodiversity technical note states:

Any development that could impact on local biodiversity through impacts on habitats and species should: a) Aim to avoid fragmentation or isolation of habitats; and b) Be sited and designed to minimise adverse impacts on the biodiversity of the site, including its environmental quality, ecological status and viability; and c) Compensate to ensure no net loss of biodiversity through use of biodiversity offsets and ensure net gain as appropriate; and d) Aim to enhance the biodiversity value of the site, through use of an ecosystems approach, with the aim of creation or restoration of habitats and wildlife corridors and provision for their long-term management and maintenance.

In reading the LDP and looking at several of the development zones proposed I can't see evidence of the above. A lot of the Borders landscape is fields which are monocultures. They allow wildlife movement, but don't provide much habitat value unless they are grazed at a very low intensity. The much greater areas of value are the small patches of scrub and woodland, and often the developments proposed are adjacent to these areas, or on top of them - if you develop in these areas you will remove these small areas of valued habitat. This could be compensated for by equivalent areas being created, along with clearly protected areas of a substantial size that can be managed for high biodiversity, but I don't see any of these in the plan. It would be great to see the above mentioned 'creation or restoration of habitats and wildlife corridors and provision for their long-term management and maintenance'. Apologies if I've missed them - I'm happy to be corrected!

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)

Comment on Policies**Which Policy are you commenting on?****Policy:**

Policy EP3 Local Biodiversity and Geodiversity

What are your comments regarding this Policy?:

The Biodiversity technical note states:

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What would you like to do now?

Proposed Local Development Plan Menu (includes Exit option)

Comment on Sites in Settlements F to H**Which Site are you commenting on?****Settlements F to H:**

Galashiels: AGALA029: Netherbarns: Housing

What are your comments regarding this site?:

I think development of this site will negatively impact on the landscape and biodiversity value of this area of land.

What would you like to do now?

Comment on other Sites in F to H settlements

Comment on Sites in Settlements F to H - page 2**Which Site are you commenting on?****Settlements F to H:**

Galashiels: SGALA005: Hollybush Valley: Longer Term Mixed Use

What are your comments regarding this site?:

The following comments cover both Hollybush sites: This area is part of the positive visual landscape as you come in to Gala from this road - I think development will cause significant damage to this. The view from the Southern Upland way will also be significantly impacted upon, with this impact being seen a long way from the proposed development. There's lots of wildlife habitat in this area and this would be significantly damaged by any development. If it is built on wildlife will be cut off from going on and off of Gala Hill. It will also be cut off from going in and out of the Policies. Increasing habitat damage and fragmentation will further damage the prospect of our local wildlife species. I believe that areas like this might hold more wildlife value than some in the Local Biodiversity Sites - this is a quiet area with minimal human interference and access to multiple habitats.

Which Site are you commenting on?**Settlements F to H:**

Galashiels: SGALA016: Hollybush Valley: Longer Term Mixed Use

What are your comments regarding this site?:

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Which Site are you commenting on?

Settlements F to H:

Galashiels: AGALA029: Netherbarns: Housing

What are your comments regarding this site?:

Development of this site will reduce the landscape value of the area by further urbanising the Boleside area and impacting on the landscape value of Abbotsford.

Which Site are you commenting on?

Settlements F to H:

Galashiels: AGALA024: Easter Langlee Expansion Area: Housing

What are your comments regarding this site?:

The eastern section of this site is surrounded by the Ellwyn Wood and Meadow biodiversity site. If this site is developed up to the boundary, or even relatively close, the will species in this biodiversity site will be negatively impacted on. The more houses, the greater the negative impact.

Which Site are you commenting on?

Settlements F to H:

What are your comments regarding this site?:

What would you like to do now?

Proposed Local Development Plan Menu (includes Exit option)

Comment on Sites in Settlements P to Z

Which Site are you commenting on?

Sites P-Z:

Tweedbank: MTWEE002: Lowood: Mixed Use

What are your comments regarding this Site? :

This site is rich in mature trees and various other habitats. If this site is developed on it will narrow the natural land corridor alongside the Tweed, and will squeeze the habitat into a small strip between Tweedbank and Coopersknowe.

What would you like to do now?

Proposed Local Development Plan Menu (includes Exit option)