

Response ID ANON-VDDE-RA2Q-S

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

Submitted on 2021-01-25 11:24:35

About you

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

Individual

Individual

What is your name?

Individual name:

Charles Brooks

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?

Submit your response to the consultation (Exit)

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 object strongly to the development of the Netherbarns site because the associated light, sound and visual intrusions will impact adversely on Abbotsford's unique heritage assets, historic setting and the cultural landscape of the Scottish Borders and Tweed Valley. This impact will reduce the enjoyment of visitors to Abbotsford and reduce the huge economic contribution which Abbotsford makes to the region.

National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3) recognises the contribution made by our cultural heritage to our economy, cultural identity and quality of life. Planning has an important role to play in maintaining and enhancing the distinctive and high-quality, irreplaceable historic places which enrich our lives, contribute to our sense of identity and are an important resource for our tourism and leisure industry.

The proposals will mean that the site will be visible from Abbotsford House during the whole year. It will takes years for any trees to be mature and for the new development not to be seen by those visiting Abbotsford the wrong (evergreen) type of tree would have to be planted so endangering the River and its environs. More visitors are making use of Scott's paths in and around Abbotsford, so they will have sight of the proposed new development

I stayed in Abbotsford House with a group of friends (12) for a week in September 2019. What a marvellous experience it was and what a fantastic place, with such history, which Scotland and the local area is so proud to promote, and rightly so. I know for a fact that my party would have had second thoughts about staying at this venue if we knew a development was visible from the House.

In 2019, the Abbotsford Trust adopted a strategic plan which includes the following goal "Our place in the Community: We will be a catalyst for improving the life of our region by creating opportunities to positively affect direct and indirect employment, skills and employability, mental health, social isolation, learning and sense of identity.

This goal is dependent on a number of long-term targets which include safeguarding Scott's landscape, improving the visitor experience, and increasing visits year round." None of the above has been referenced in either LDP2 or its supporting documents.

How sad it would be for all those experiencing and present during Abbotsford's 250th anniversary celebrations and the Year of Scotland's Stories in 2022 (supported by the Scottish Government, the South of Scotland Enterprise Agency and VisitScotland), to see, hear and be affected by development works just over the river - it would be poor reflection on the national, regional and local authorities.

What would you like to do now?

Proposed Local Development Plan Menu (includes Exit option)