

Durham County Council Draft Local Plan Document

Policy Context

1. Durham County Council is consulting on its pre-submission draft Local Plan Document, the third and final stage of consultation on the County Durham plan. All comments made at this stage are required to be formal submissions as Regulation 19 has been triggered. Should the plan be adopted it will provide the policy framework for the county up to 2035.
2. The Council shares borders with Durham to the south and south west, and is therefore being consulted on the Plan. Gateshead's comments reflect the potential implications of the Local Plan document on development and growth across Gateshead, particularly in the context of Gateshead's adopted Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan and emerging Making Spaces for Growing Places (MSGP).
3. Consultees are being asked to comment on whether the Local Plan complies with the legal requirements; national policy; and the 'soundness' of the plan. The plan:
 - *Proposes 302 hectares of strategic and general employment land for office, industrial and warehousing. 13.5 hectares land during the plan period and safeguard 17.7 hectares for Research and Development at NetPark, North of Bishop Auckland.*
 - *Focuses new housing development on the county's main towns and villages but with opportunities identified that allow all settlements to have a sustainable future.*
 - *Makes sure there is an accessible, integrated and sustainable transport system*
 - *Enables Durham City to fulfil its potential. Development focus on the City on residential, Office space and the University.*
 - *Proposes to allocate two strategic urban extension sites: one at Sniperley Park and Sherburn Road. These are detailed in Policy 5.*

- *Makes sure there is access to a range and choice of housing, services and community facilities*
 - *Protects and enhances the natural, built and historic environment*
 - *Increases the numbers of visitors and the amount of time and money they spend in the County.*
4. Our draft response to this consultation as attached, is consistent with responses we have provided to earlier stages of consultation on the emerging County Durham Local plan, the few minor issues affecting Gateshead Council have been addressed within this response to Durham County Council.
 5. Pre-Submission (Regulation 19) stage of a Local Plan is the last stage where formal comments can be lodged. Subject to the outcomes of consultation, the next stage of the County Durham plan will be submission to the Secretary of State where the plan will be examined for soundness.
 6. The deadline for consultation responses is 8th March 2019. In order to meet this deadline, our comments have been forwarded to Durham County Council for information.

Implications of Recommended Option

7. **Resources:**
 - a) **Financial Implications** – Potential contribution from development in North Durham to improve Gateshead's transport infrastructure.
 - b) **Human Resources Implications** – No human resources implications.
 - c) **Property Implications** - No property implications.
8. **Risk Management Implication** - No risks associated with the consultation.
9. **Equality and Diversity Implications** – A spatial objective of the plan is to reduce inequality.
10. **Crime and Disorder Implications** – No crime implications.
11. **Health Implications** – No health implications.

12. **Sustainability Implications** - A Sustainability Statement has been produced as part of the Local Plan Preferred Options Document.
13. **Human Rights Implications** - No human rights implications.
14. **Area and Ward Implications** – Durham County Council's Preferred Options Document could potentially have transport implications across the Borough, although adhering to the duty to co-operate should resolve any issues.

Annex



www.gateshead.gov.uk

Stuart Timmiss
Head of Planning and Assets
Durham County Council
County Hall
Durham
DH1 5UL

8th March 2019

Dear Mr Timmiss,

RE: County Durham Plan Pre-Submission Draft Consultation 2019

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to comment on the Pre-Submission Draft County Durham Plan (CDP). As neighbouring local authorities, cooperation on strategic cross-boundary issues can positively influence sustainable development in Gateshead and County Durham. In broad terms, Gateshead supports the proposals within the CDP, and we are satisfied with engagement that has, and continues to take place between the Councils under the Duty to Cooperate. Although we do not wish to raise any substantive issues with the CDP, we would like to highlight the following areas of work:

Transport

Gateshead Council welcomes recent discussions with neighbouring local authorities, regarding cross-boundary transport issues. Sharing cross-border traffic flow predictions is of particular importance in highlighting areas for further consideration. Gateshead Council is keen to continue cross-boundary discussions which will help all local authorities understand transport implications of new and proposed developments.

Water Management.

Gateshead Council welcomes Durham County Council's involvement and support in the recently formed Team Catchment Partnership, which is a sub-group of the Tyne Catchment Partnership. Working with Durham County Council, the Environment Agency, Tyne Rivers Trust and other stakeholders; Gateshead Council hopes that this partnership can agree a vision to improve flood management, enhance the environment and improve water quality across the catchment.

Minerals and Waste

Gateshead Council supports the approach to minerals and waste as set out in the Plan; the Council will continue to work collaboratively with County Durham and other Councils in the region on minerals and waste planning issues, including as part of the duty-to-cooperate. In respect of brick clay, the Council will continue to work positively with County Durham in addressing the longer-term needs of the Union Brickworks (located in Gateshead), noting that the current permission at Birtley Quarry (in County Durham) will enable the needs of the brickworks for glacial clay to be met until 2044.

Summary

Gateshead Council welcomes the opportunity to consider, and comment on the Pre-Submission draft CDP. We look forward to continuing to work positively and constructively with Durham County Council on cross-boundary issues.

Yours Faithfully



Neil Wilkinson

Environment, Housing and Planning Manager