

## Durham City Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Jan.- Feb. 2020

### Policy S1 **Sustainable Development Requirements of all Development Sites including...**

Strongly support policy, especially e) g) h) i) j) k)

*Climate Change Strategy and Delivery Plan* ('County Durham Environment Partnership 2015) includes key theme: 'Transport and Infrastructure': promoting travel choices and alternatives to private motor travel and diesel and petrol cars (eg providing charging points)

Strongly recommend: that the County Council prioritises extending the provision of charging points across the County

that the County Council is pro-active in promoting better and cheaper public transport especially in the County

that a website offers links to those who would car-share, if there were a website for finding others travelling to Durham City for work

that all workplace car parks offer paid parking only

that a Durham Community Forum is held on a regular basis to monitor behavioural change over travelling choices and in order to develop effective liaison with walking and cycling groups and bus companies

that a 'Clean Air Zone' is established in Durham City to include the A690 from the Gilesgate roundabout to Stonebridge; Gilesgate Bank, Claypath, New Elvet and Framwellgate Peth.

Policy S2 **The Requirement for a Masterplan** strongly support especially d) e) f)

**Green Infrastructure** 4.69 Strongly support all objectives

Policy G1 **Protecting and Enhancing Green Infrastructure** strongly support especially 'protecting and enhancing footpaths and networks; protecting and enhancing the r=banks of the River Wear.'

Strongly support Policy G2, G3, G4

With reference to the creation of the Emerald Necklace – an excellent proposal - and 'the... beneficial use of the Green Belt', there is an opportunity for partnership with voluntary wildlife and environmental groups to help with improvement of existing paths and signposting; preparation of user-friendly maps eg *Durham City Churches, Chapels and Cafes* produced by 'Visit Durham'.

### Theme 5 **A City with a Modern and Sustainable Transport and Infrastructure**

4.224 Strongly support objectives. My personal recommendations include:

- reducing vehicle emissions by discouraging car-use, and emphasising health benefits and overall wellbeing by walking and cycling
- significant improvement of cycle routes in Durham City by provision of safe, coherent, designated routes across the City and to the University sites.
- claim funding from central Government: it has made a commitment to a national *Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy* through the Infrastructure Act 2015.
- workplace car parks: provision for paid parking only
- students obliged to justify why in a small, compact city they need a car
- strategy to eliminate A690 as a route to cross from AIM to A167: re-route traffic
- speed limit of 20mph through Durham City

*Cycling and walking Investment Strategy* Strongly endorse support for walking and cycling. 2020 Objectives: increase walking activity, increase cycling activity, reduce rate of cyclists killed on road; increase percentage of children aged 5-10 who usually walk to school. 'walking and cycling should be seen as transport modes in their own right and an integral part of the transport network, rather than as a niche interest or town planning afterthoughts.' NPPF

4.234 'need to address climate change...' This is the most important issue, and one that profoundly affects the future for all young people.

Policy T1 **Sustainable Transport Accessibility and Design**

4.251 'In assessing the transport impacts of a development a holistic view is required...' The holistic view is imperative, if development is going to be sustainable from every aspect.

Policy T2 **Residential Car Parking** Modern and sustainable transport should consistently promote reduction in car use, as it will improve the quality of life, improve an experience of community, reduce the huge transference of land for road building and in consequence support biodiversity.

Policy T3 **Residential Storage for cycles and mobility aids** Support this policy.