

Darlington Local Development Framework Core Strategy: Draft Strategic Objectives

Our aim is to:

1. create an environment that encourages quality of life and promotes healthy and inclusive communities whilst supporting economic vitality for Darlington;
2. ensure continued and sustainable levels of economic growth that provides employment for our residents, supports existing businesses and encourages new businesses to set up in Darlington;
3. enhance and promote the historic market town centre of Darlington as the hub for shopping, culture and civic administration whilst protecting and enhancing key commercial centres and accessible local commercial and community facilities for which there is, or is expected be, a continuing need;
4. protect and enhance the separate identities and character of the town, distinctive parts within it, and the villages, and promote development that is in keeping with the size, character and function of the location;
5. encourage high quality, sustainable and safe design for places and spaces, in both the private and public realm;
6. protect and enhance the natural environment and historic heritage of the Borough whilst recognising the need to allow for its continued evolution and growth;
7. promote development in locations where it will be accessible by various modes of travel, optimise the use of existing infrastructure, ensure the best use of previously developed land and minimise loss of the countryside and agricultural land whilst also minimising the need to travel;
8. contribute to social inclusion by recognising the various needs of different sections of the community, such as the needs of various ethnic groups, genders and those with different disabilities;
9. provide a continuous supply of appropriate land in sustainable locations, that will meet our strategic requirements for housing, employment, shopping, recreation, education and other services;
10. develop an integrated and accessible open space, recreation, leisure, culture and services framework, commensurate with the needs of our residents and visitors;
11. provide a framework to facilitate infrastructure provisions commensurate with community and business needs;
12. promote developments that conserve natural resources, minimise greenhouse gas emissions, help to reduce waste and minimise the risk of flooding or pollution.