### THE CITY OF DURHAM TRUST

Response to the County Durham Plan Pre-Submission Draft

# COUNTY DURHAM PLAN PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT - Consultation October 2013

For Office Use Only
Consultee ID:
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Please use a separate form for each representation.

NAME & ADDRESS
The City of Durham Trust
Registered Office Quality Solicitors BHP Law
Kepier House
Belmont Business Park
Belmont
Durham DH1 1TW

Name & Address (Agent)(IF APPLICABLE)
ROGER CORNWELL (CHAIR)

OTHER DETAILS AS AT LEFT

Email Address trust@durhamcity.org

Preferred method of contact (please tick): Email ✓ Letter

To which part of the County Durham Plan does your representation relate? **Policy 45 - Durham Cathedral and Castle World Heritage Site** 

#### Q1

Do you consider that this policy/proposal of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan to be Legally & Procedurally Compliant and Sound? Legally and Procedurally Compliant Yes (Go to Q3) Sound Yes (Go to Q3)

## Q2 - If you consider that this policy/proposal of the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan is Legally and Procedurally Compliant and Sound please use this box to explain why?

- 1. The Trust approves of this Policy.
- 2. However, they note an apparent discrepancy between the actual policy and para 8.87. The former states that proposals will "need to demonstrate that the development will cause no harm to the significance of the WHS" and that this encompasses "appearance, fabric, character or setting". On the other hand, para 8.87 states that "Substantial harm to, or loss of, designated heritage assets of the highest significance (including World Heritage Sites) should be wholly exceptional". They should not be "wholly exceptional", they should not be permitted. This discrepancy should be resolved in favour of the current wording of the policy.
- 3. (Incidentally, the wording presumably means sites (plural, lower case 's') within the World Heritage Site (singular, the designated area).

#### Q3 / Q4 /Q5 not relevant here.

Q6 Do you wish to participate in the Examination in Public? No

Q7 Do you want to be informed of the following:
The submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State? Yes
The publication the Inspector report? Yes
The adoption of the County Durham Plan? Yes