

# THE CITY OF DURHAM TRUST

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c/o Blackett, Hart & Pratt, LLP  
Aire House  
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Belmont  
Durham, DH1 1TH  
18 June 2020

Dear Ms Jennings

The City of Durham Trust is concerned about the number of planning applications seeking to convert family dwellings to houses in multiple occupation. This is increasing the imbalance between the student population and the long-term resident population of Durham City. Instead we need to promote and preserve inclusive, mixed and balanced communities (NPPF, 8b).

Accordingly, Trustees wish to object to application **DM/20/01237/FPA** which proposes to change the use of **9 Station Lane, Gilesgate**. The percentage of Council Tax exempt properties within 100 metres radius of this property is not stated on the planning portal, but we have good reason to believe that it is clearly above 10% and so the conversion would be contrary to the County Council's own Interim Policy on Student Accommodation and to Policy 16 in the emerging County Durham Plan.

Yours sincerely

John Lowe  
Chair, City of Durham Trust