



## KEY ACTIVITIES: 16 June to 20 July 2021

PLANNING APPLICATIONS considered	OBJECTIONS submitted	SUPPORT submitted	COMMENTS/CONCERNS submitted
52	8	3	5

### NEWS ITEMS

**Durham City Neighbourhood Plan.** This was formally adopted by DCC on 23 June.

**The Sands public inquiry.** This inquiry ended on 7 July with closing statements from the lawyers. A decision is expected in August or September.

**Dunelm House Listing.** The Secretary of State announced a Grade II Listing for Dunelm House following representations (and a 4-year battle) by the C20 Society and (locally) the City of Durham Trust. It didn't gain Grade II\* due to the condition of the building.

**Gala Theatre re-opened.** Durham's Gala Theatre re-opened on 21 June following a £600k refurbishment.

**Covid-19.** Most legal restrictions were removed on 19 July, but DCC still encourages the wearing of masks in busy indoor areas and on public transport.

**Future of the DLI collection.** DCC has arranged a meeting (28 July) of their Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Management Board, inviting key stakeholders and members of the public (limited seats) to feed into a review of options for the display/storage of the Durham Light Infantry Collection & Archive, and the former museum building and grounds. The County Hall meeting is at 1.30 pm and will be available live on YouTube.

**UK City of Culture bid.** DCC submitted an initial bid (on behalf of Culture Durham) for Durham (both county and city) to be named UK City of Culture 2025. Groups of towns are now able to work together to submit joint bids. A shortlist of six locations will be announced in September, with full bids due January 2022.

### KEY BUSINESS

**Electoral boundary changes consultation.** The Trust are preparing a (politically impartial) submission to this important consultation affecting the City of Durham and other constituencies.

**Consultation about city centre signage.** On 16 June the Trust submitted a response to DCC on this preliminary consultation.

**Sniperley Park/Sherburn Road masterplans.** The Trust have had a positive response from DCC's Joint Administration regarding the Trust's appeal letter for a fresh approach to the production of masterplans for these two key housing development sites to meet the requirements of Policy 5 of the County Durham Plan.

**WHS boundary extension.** The UNESCO committee resolution and ICOMOS report have been circulated, with a lack of clarity on how the resolution gets decided and how additional points could be raised. Some concern has been expressed in Durham following the withdrawal of Liverpool's WHS status due to overdevelopment.

**TfN Decarbonisation Strategy.** Trustees are drafting a supportive response to the consultation strategy document and will post an article on it on the Trust's website to ask members to send in views for inclusion in the Trust's submission.

**Housing application at Aykley Heads.** Persimmon submitted an overcrowded application for 57 houses on the former police skid pan site. The Trust have drafted an objection.

**AGM 2021.** The Trust now plans to have an in-person AGM in late October at the Assembly Rooms Theatre, and Trustees will be resuming in-person meetings from September. The Annual Review is being drafted.

**Subscription resolutions.** Trustees have drafted resolutions on simplification of the Trust's membership categories and subscriptions, to be presented at the August meeting (and voted on at the AGM).

**Funding for Coal Stories guide.** Trustees have agreed to donate £300 towards the printing costs of this excellent guided walk leaflet on Durham City's industrial and mining heritage.

**Briefing note on PBSA application.** The Trust have assisted MP Mary Foy's office by drafting a briefing note on a 2020 outline application for an 850-bed PBSA off South Road (Mount Oswald).