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Draft Supplementary Planning Document on Energy Efficiency, Renewables and the Historic Environment

Thank you very much indeed for the opportunity to comment on the above 2nd draft document.

The City of Durham Trust strongly supports the County Council's initiative in producing a range of SPDs to assist with interpretation and application of particular County Durham Plan policies. We share the desire to secure consistent and focussed planning applications and submissions that address the requirements laid down in policies and to remove the difficulties that have been experienced by Members, officers, applicants and consultees in some cases. The Trust particularly appreciates that SPDs should be used positively by developers to submit applications that are in line with the guidance they contain and therefore should be capable of approval.

The Trust responded very positively to the first draft in our letter of 2 December 2023. The comments that we made then have been incorporated in this second version, with the exception of the point that heritage interior doors should be treated with the same care as exterior doors.

Conclusions

The Trust hopes that the above comments are helpful in achieving the welcome purpose of this Supplementary Planning Document.

Yours sincerely

John Lowe
Chair, City of Durham Trust