

Ref	Name	Organisation	Type of Representation	Section/ Para	Comments	Officer Response	Proposed Changes
Darlington Green Infrastructure Strategy							
1: Introduction							
4	Peter Hull	Farmway Ltd	Objection	1.0.1	It is a comprehensive document with many actions and drivers. But it omits any detailed discussions with formal agricultural parties. As over 80% of the Borough is rural, the need to include the wider agricultural community is vital.	Integrating mainstream agricultural industry needs with the principles of green infrastructure and building relations across the sector will continue to be developed. A more focussed discussion with representatives from the agricultural sector will take place to inform the final version of the Strategy and Action Plan.	Add more information on farming industry. Following discussions with agricultural sector add opportunities for improvement.
4	Peter Hull	Farmway Ltd	Objection	1.1	Comments are made about the various local strategies. The Darlington Partnership has produced a document on the future economic development of Darlington. It would be disappointing if the numerous Council policies were not co-ordinated.	Reference to the Darlington Economic Strategy will be added highlighting the links between the two Strategies.	Add reference to Economic Strategy.
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Objection	1.1	Not all priority species and habitats identified in the Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan are under threat. Suggest the "The Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plans identify local priorities for biodiversity and work to deliver agreed actions and targets for priority habitats and species, and locally important wildlife and sites."	Comment noted and accepted.	Make change as proposed.
2	Heather Evans	CTC	Objection	Maps	The colouring on the Network Map and Action Plan Maps is poor. It's extremely difficult to distinguish between the primary road routes and the strategic cycle/walking routes.	Accept that maps are not as clear as they could be.	Ensure the maps are easy to read and use.
3	Baydale Properties and Ward Bros Ltd	England & Lyle	Objection	Maps	Plans are limited in details. Our clients have suffered for a number of years as a result of an unrealistic and onerous allocation for the cross town route which never materialised. Would not wish any of the land currently being promoted to meet with the same fate. A buffer of around 3 metres and possibly the provision of a pedestrian/cycle link along one side of the river would be appropriate providing that it could link up with a useable network. Welcome clarification about what is envisaged where the river passes through our clients ownership.	The plans are strategic and indicative. The buffers give an indication as to where higher quality biodiversity value should be provided should land be developed or improved. Welcome the proposal for a pedestrian/cycle link. Detailed infrastructure allocations and requirements will be negotiated through the Local Plan and planning application processes with the landowners and their representatives, to ensure that an appropriate, viable scheme can be secured.	No change required.
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Objection	Map 1	It would be useful to define strategic sports fields/rights of way etc from other types of sports fields and rights of way. A map showing all elements of green infrastructure (including churchyards and cemeteries) would be useful. From this a map of strategic elements (corridors and buffers) could be derived.	This is a strategic document; to show every greenspace in the Borough would not be appropriate. Reference will be made to the Open Space Strategy which details most accessible greenspaces. For clarity, other sports facilities and allotments will be added to the more detailed corridor maps.	Add reference to Open Space Strategy. Add allotments and sports facilities to local corridor maps.
2: Darlington's Green Infrastructure Vision							
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Support	Vision and objectives	Has a clear vision and objectives that provide a strong steer and robust rationale, building upon both the Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Darlington Green Spaces Strategy.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	Vision	Green infrastructure is being seen as central to the sustainable health and wellbeing of the Borough. Do not believe that this vision document goes far enough, particularly for the west end of Darlington, urbanized from the 1930's.	The Strategy and its Action Plan identifies known green infrastructure projects that are deliverable over the next 10-15 years. It is a living document; there are no projects in the West End at the moment but should projects be identified they can be added on an annual basis.	No change required.
3: Darlington's Existing Green Infrastructure Network							
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Objection	3.0	The Strategy understandably concentrates on corridors as it provides many benefits, but green infrastructure does not always have to be connected to be of importance to people and wildlife, particularly where a linear connection is partly in concept only. The Strategy could usefully consider all areas of existing and potential green infrastructure, e.g the Drinkfield Marsh Local Nature Reserve and public open space/allotments in the rural villages.	It covers all green infrastructure including Drinkfield LNR and open space/allotments in the urban area and villages. Each corridor has different characteristics; the needs and opportunities vary along their route. Aspirations reflect this; projects identified reflect the corridor and its location within the corridor. It is based around actual (existing) and conceptual (proposed) corridors; this includes the green infrastructure (existing or proposed) near to each one. So if a project were identified at Drinkfield it would be part of the nearest corridor - the River Skerne-Faverdale Corridor.	Clarify that the future green infrastructure network is conceptual. Clarify the approach to project selection in the Action Plan.

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22	Ian Bond		Objection	3.0	One slight weakness of an otherwise excellent strategy is that it concentrates on corridors. This is understandable but GI does not need to be connected to be of importance to people and wildlife, particularly where the linear connection exists partly in concept only. The GI Strategy should include all areas of GI or potential GI eg neither Bensham nor Whinfield Parks are mapped and the important Drinkfield LNR has not been considered.	It covers all green infrastructure including Bensham and Whinfield Park and Drinkfield LNR. Each corridor has different characteristics; the needs and opportunities vary along their route. Aspirations reflect this; projects identified reflect the corridor and its location within the corridor. It is based around actual (existing) and conceptual (proposed) corridors; this includes the green infrastructure (existing or proposed) near to each one. So if a project were identified at Drinkfield it would be part of the nearest corridor - the River Skerne-Faverdale Corridor.	Clarify that the future green infrastructure network is conceptual. Clarify the approach to project selection in the Action Plan.
3.1: Mitigating the Impact of Climate Change							
4	Peter Hull	Farmway Ltd	Objection	3.1	Agriculture has a significant and important role to play in the reduction and impact of climate change. The items in 3.1 are good local initiatives, but the involvement of the wider agricultural supply chain is needed to have a more significant impact.	Agree. The agricultural sector can help mitigate the impact of climate change by joining up ecosystems through a landscape approach to green infrastructure, identifying opportunities for sustainable drainage at an individual farm scale and identifying ways of working that reduces the dependency on high carbon technologies.	Reflect discussions with agricultural sector in 3.1.
6	Richard Cowan	Cockerton Cricket Club	Comment	3.1	Over many years the Cockerton Cricket Club field has experienced flooding, which is getting worse despite efforts and drainage improvements because Cocker Beck is not being dredged very often, and a raised path at the adjacent Cockerton School reduces the speed flood water flows into the beck. The heavy rain this summer has meant the loss of a great deal of cricket and income. If extreme weather occurs more frequently it could put the existence of the Club at risk.	A study is investigating improvements to the flow and quality of Cocker Beck. This is expected to become a long term project (Project B1), which once completed could help address flood risk along the Beck.	No change required.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	3.1	Welcome the intention to increase the number of street trees, as this will help with climate change. Recommend introducing some native coniferous trees in the pedestrian areas of the Town Centre to provide shade and reduce maintenance with leaf fall.	Trees, including coniferous trees, help mitigate climate change and also provide air quality, biodiversity and landscape benefits. Where appropriate trees will be incorporated into the design of new development in the Town Centre.	Add reference to coniferous trees in Green Infrastructure Guide.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	3.1.1	Support the inclusion of green roofs and green walls. Recommend that new developments are required to include permeable surface car parks to avoid the increase of non-permeable areas which can cumulatively lead to increases in surface water run off.	The Design SPD encourages appropriate surface water run off management to be incorporated in new development. This would include the use of permeable paving.	No change required.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	3.1	Carbon dioxide is a product of burning fossil fuel; it is not in itself a fossil fuel.	Comment noted.	Change 3.1 to reflect comment made.
3.2: Sustainable Movement							
1	Marilyn Gibson	British Horse Society	Objection	3.2	Appreciate the need for sustainable transport and the emphasis on strategic pedestrian and cycle routes. Disappointed that horse riding was mentioned only in passing, on P.25 and in the definitions of Rights of Way. It should identify the proportion of ROW and strategic routes open to equestrians e.g. need confirmation that the bridge over the A66 is open to equestrians. This would be consistent with Government statement by Richard Benyon, who urged Councils to make the best of their ROW network and other trails, by making them multiuser unless there is a good reason not to (document submitted).	Equestrians are important users of the GI network. More detail will be added to the Strategy to identify the opportunities for horse riders. The number of available routes is a matter for the more detailed Rights of Way Improvement Plan.	Add references to equestrians where appropriate in the Strategy.
1	Marilyn Gibson	British Horse Society	Objection	3.2	There are a significant numbers of horse riders in Darlington. Equestrians are amongst the most vulnerable road users when forced onto busy highways due to a lack of safe off road facilities. The needs of horse riders and health benefits of horse riding should be discussed.	Horse riding is a popular recreational activity and its benefits will be discussed further. Any specific needs will be added to 3.2, while project specific initiatives will be added where appropriate to the Action Plan.	Add references to equestrians where appropriate. Add appropriate actions to the Action Plan.
2	Heather Evans	CTC	Objection	3.2	Any infrastructure for cyclists should be built to a high quality and shouldn't have access controls.	Where appropriate it is sometimes necessary to restrict access to unauthorised vehicles to reduce user conflict.	No change required.
2	Heather Evans	CTC	Objection	3.2	Dog owners need to keep their dogs on a short lead when on routes used by cyclists.	Dog owners are encouraged to keep dogs on a lead when using green infrastructure to avoid user conflict.	No change required.

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19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	3.2	The promotion of walking and cycling provision within green infrastructure is welcomed.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
26	Mr Whitfield		Objection	3.2	It is of great annoyance to pedestrians/walkers on public footways in town and in the countryside that overgrown hedges, from private adjacent land obstruct a clear passage. Hedge cut-backs are not enforced eg bridleway 3, east of Hartlea Avenue and the footway from A167 to Hallgarth Golf Course (292198 Map NZ 21/31.2½ to 1ML).	Landowners are responsible for land adjacent to public rights of way and should carry out maintenance that complies with their legal duties to not obstruct these important routes. The Council work with landowners to address issues as they arise.	No change required.
29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Support	3.2	50% of respondents used the PROW network. Very positive reaction to the green cycle network by those who use them, especially by parents with young children.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Support	3.2	The need to get away from traffic and relax is important.	Comments noted.	No change required.
3.3: Promoting a Distinctive Townscape and Landscape							
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	3.3	Fully support the continued work with farmers and landowners to support agri-environment schemes. Darlington does not lie within a Higher Level Stewardship Scheme target area, so targeting work with the Entry Level Stewardship is more appropriate.	Comments accepted.	Make changes to Strategy and Action Plan accordingly.
3.4: Maintaining and Enhancing Biodiversity, Air and Water Quality							
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	3.4	The continued creation of wildlife habitats is welcomed.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Support	3.4	50% of consultees identified nature and the natural world in green spaces as being important.	Comments noted.	No change required.
31	Dolphin Centre Drop In Events		Support	3.4	100% of consultees used greenspaces, 25% enjoyed the wildflower meadows if managed correctly. 38% used greenspaces to enjoy nature, even those who didn't like the wildflower areas, respected the need for it.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
31	Dolphin Centre Drop In Events		Objection	3.4	1 respondent was concerned about the wildflower project, accepting its philosophy but not its location or its style of delivery.	The wildflower meadow initiative is targeted to provide local benefit to residents as well as biodiversity. There is an ongoing dialogue on design review and educational involvement with local communities.	No change required.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	3.4.2	Reference to Water Framework Directive sets a timescale of 2027, but some aspects have shorter timescales than this. Recommend that relevant requirements are identified with the correct timescales.	Appropriate actions that can be delivered through GI from the Water Framework Directive will be identified and timescales added.	Amend Strategy accordingly.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	3.4 Bullet point 2	As well as looking to ensure that there is no net loss in the size and quality of habitats and species, consideration should be given to how these habitats can be enhanced.	3.4 particularly the opportunities for improvement, and the various biodiversity led projects in the Action Plan all show how habitats will be enhanced in Darlington.	No change required.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	3.4 Bullet point 3	The text refers to '...tripled their otter and water vole populations'. Recommend that a reference is included to support this.	Comment noted.	Amend Strategy to 'the number of Otter sightings has increased'.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	3.4 Bullet point 4	Crustacean should not be referred to as a protected or priority species in this location.	Comment noted.	Change text accordingly.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	3.4 Bullet point 7	All landowners are eligible for Entry Level Stewardship, so this is a more appropriate objective, as Higher Level Stewardship is targeted; Darlington does not lie within a target area.	Comments accepted.	Make changes to Strategy and Action Plan accordingly.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	3.4 Acorn Dairy	Garthorne Farm is no longer in Countryside Stewardship but is in Organic Higher Level Stewardship and the Organic Entry Level Scheme. It is one of a number of neighbouring farms in an agri-environment scheme, all of which have been designed to benefit local bird populations and have seen significant success.	Comment noted.	Amend Example of Good Practice: Acorn Dairy to reflect comments made.
3.5: Providing Opportunities for Sport, Recreation and Play							

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10	David Walton	Groundwork	Objection	3.5	References to how GI is relevant to a number of key benefit areas is excellent. This could be strengthened, where GI can play a greater role, e.g. economic activity, health and climate change. 3.5 could be stronger in referencing 'Health' and tie in with the public health agenda.	The benefits reflect other organisations up to date guidance and strategies. Where possible the Strategy will be strengthened, particularly for health.	Add up to date references to 3.1-3.9.
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Objection	3.5	Reference could be made to Natural England's guidelines on standards for access to green space – ANGST Plus.	While ANGST Plus are useful standards, the local standards adopted in the Open Space Strategy are considered to be more relevant to promoting greenspace in Darlington.	No change required.
17	Dave McGuire	Sport England	Support	3.5	Greenspace is where most outdoor sport takes place, but the need for these sports facilities is established through different studies, such as the Playing Pitch and Sports Facilities Strategies. Satisfied that they are broadly consistent with the above documents.	Comments welcome and noted.	No change required.
28	Young Peoples Forum		Objection	3.5	100% use greenspaces, would like more facilities for young people in parks and large open spaces, or get told to move by adults eg skateboarding in the West End. Use spaces near home, with seats to meet friends, have a bit of anonymity or where there is something to do. Projects that provide for town centre activities would be good.	Projects that provide facilities for young people have been identified in the Action Plan. This is a living document, so where a new project comes forward it will be added annually.	Amend Action Plan where appropriate.
28	Young Peoples Forum		Objection	3.5	Some only used certain open spaces because they were anxious about their safety and using other people's territory.	The Design SPD requires that the design or redesign of greenspaces is carefully considered to ensure safety for all and to reduce opportunities for crime and anti social behaviour.	No change required.
29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Support	3.5	Majority took children to play in parks and greenspaces; 100% were happy with the new sites; West Park got positive response. Majority wanted separate facilities for young people so that they have somewhere to go. Adult supervision was not important.	Support for children's play facilities welcome. Projects that provide facilities for young people have been identified in the Action Plan.	Amend Action Plan where appropriate.
29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Support	3.5	Natural play had a lot of support.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
30	Town Centre Consultation Event		Support	3.5/3.7	Many used greenspaces for activities such as Nordic walking while others mentioned Council run events as being an important draw e.g. bat walks.	Comments noted.	No change required.
3.6 Generating Productive Landscapes							
4	Peter Hull	Farmway Ltd	Objection	3.6	There are many good local farmers who produce food in an environmentally friendly manner. It is unfortunate that the examples are for local, organic food producers. Green infrastructure must extend beyond local, organic food.	Acknowledge that many farmers produce food in an environmentally friendly manner at an individual farm scale. But at a landscape scale a decline in biodiversity exists. In comparison to the number of farmers in higher level or organic agri environmental schemes, mainstream agriculture only makes a small contribution to environmentally friendly farming, particularly in the lowlands.	Amend Strategy to include reference to local environmentally friendly farms.
4	Peter Hull	Farmway Ltd	Objection	3.6.1	Wind turbines are only a small part of renewable energy, and there are studies which show that the installation of turbines creates more carbon than savings. There needs to be a match of various sources of renewable energy to have an impact - solar, heat pumps.	A range of renewable energy technologies are encouraged in Darlington, where appropriate, by other strategies. But the focus is on those that are more common in, and have an impact upon green infrastructure like wind and biomass.	No change required.
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	3.6.1	Pleased to see the inclusion and promotion of Local Food.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	3.6.1	The inclusion and promotion of DIG is supported.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
4.1: Darlington Green infrastructure Action Plan							
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Objection	4.1.1	These are numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 when the text states there is no corridor 2. Should it be 1, 3, 4, and 5?	Agree.	Amend text accordingly.
General Comments							
5	Malcolm Wright	Resident	Support	General comment	This is an excellent document, well presented and easy to follow.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.

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7	Carl Bunnage	North Yorkshire County Council	Support	General Comment	Poses few strategic implications for North Yorkshire. Encourage on-going joint working to identify and progress opportunities to integrate cross-boundary work on Green Infrastructure, to enhance connectivity and functionality of key wildlife/ecological corridors.	Cross boundary working with all adjoining Councils including North Yorkshire will continue to help inform the future direction of the Strategy.	No change required.
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Support	General Comment	Welcome the strategy; it is the next step in the local delivery of the Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy. The structure with key themes that relate to GI is welcomed with the breakdown of area specific action plans.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Comment	General Comment	The Strategy might benefit from a communications strategy or suite of actions to make the case for GI within the Council and to key partners. This will ensure the aims are taken into account by all Council services and that there is buy in from external stakeholders e.g. NHS, LEP, Education, RSLs, Statutory bodies.	It will identify a wider range of delivery mechanisms, including communications and publicity related actions to promote GI.	Ensure communications based delivery mechanisms are identified in the Action Plan.
11	Matthew King	Hartlepool Borough Council	Support	General Comment	The strategy has been well written and is set out in a logical way giving a strategic overview before going into specific details of distinct areas in the Action Plan.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
12	Beryl Bird	Tees Valley Local Access Forum	Comment	General Comment	The Tees Valley Local Access Forum have no comment to make.	Comments noted.	No change required.
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Support	General Comment	Welcome this ambitious Strategy which, if successfully implemented, will further enhance the excellent work that has already taken place on integrating nature conservation and the natural environment into Darlington's green infrastructure and open up opportunities for people to access and appreciate nature and the benefits that brings e.g. improved health and wellbeing.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
14	Fiona McGloin	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	Support	General Comment	Welcome this positive strategy which helps to deliver green infrastructure and multiple social, economic and environmental benefits to local communities. Welcome that is aligned and supports the implementation of the Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	General Comment	Welcomed as a sound basis for the development of Darlington's green infrastructure which will build on the mosaic of Darlington's urban area and connect it to its countryside, and also develop the countryside further.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	General Comment	The addition of more designated green infrastructure is noted and commended.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
20	John Dixon	Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Support	General Comment	Support the inclusion of the strategic Green Infrastructure Network identified at the Tees Valley scale and the identification of cross boundary issues.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
21	Chris Bell	Highways Agency	Support	General	Support Darlington in the development of the GI Strategy.	Support welcome and noted	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General Comment	The West End of Darlington - once green and open! The Blackwell-Tees corridor continues to lose former green spaces to infill development, some of which are overcrowded and lacking green spaces. A suitable open space is being vacated at Woodburn Nursery; this open land could be promoted as sustainable landscaped open space for the benefit of the surrounding community of modest homes which are close to or face onto two noisy, busy highways.	In general there is a presumption against development of greenspace, as set out by the Core Strategy. New development can be required to provide for open space to help mitigate its impact. Many of the newer developments in this part of town have provided commuted sums to improve existing spaces. The current and future use of Woodburn Nursery, and any infrastructure provided as a result of new development will be determined through the Making and Growing Places DPD.	No change required.

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23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General Comment	Backland infill of executive houses is the Council's priority 'vision' for Woodburn Nursery, determined from consultants (Levvel) who both under-researched the site several years ago and based their conclusions on criteria that are no longer relevant to it. Suggest that from the Salutation Road entrance through to the cemetery passing through GG Hoskins stable courtyard be re-landscaped for the benefit of the local community. Many smaller dwellings close by have no useful garden space. There is no accessible open space other than the cemetery within reasonable walking distance.	Levvels provided a detailed and thorough report about the viability of land in Darlington at 2010. This was accepted as accurate by an independent Inspector. It has subsequently been updated in 2012 and the findings for the South West of the urban area remain broadly similar. New development can only make provision for open space to mitigate the impact of future residents. It cannot address existing deficits in provision. The detailed design of the Woodburn Nursery site and the type of housing proposed will be discussed through the Making and Growing Places DPD and the planning application process.	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General Comment	This land was all originally green and open farmland. From 1873 it was gradually developed as fruit and flower gardens, ceasing by 1930 when Darlington Corporation bought the site. The gated site is fronted by an adjoining and unique pair of Listed Gardeners' Cottages. Originally both had front, side and rear garden curtilage, but over time the side and rear gardens to one of the properties has been lost and form part of Woodburn Nursery. The Council has already approved selling the land to parties that have no historic or architectural connection to it. This negates all current statements being made by Council, and regional/national guidance regarding appropriate enhancement and protection for the quality and significance of this special place.	This is not an issue for the Green Infrastructure Strategy. The future of the Woodburn Nursery site is a matter for the Making and Growing Places DPD and the planning application process.	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General Comment	The open space has served no purpose for forty years; the ground has been filled and compacted behind the stone outhouse walls of one cottage. It has not been of use, value or of environmental significance to the Council or its employees, and it demonstrates disregard on for the known history and remaining heritage buildings on this site.	This is not an issue for the Green Infrastructure Strategy.	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General Comment	None of the site's services have ever been appropriately facilitated or managed; access/egress, working practices have caused damage to and neglected much of the historic infrastructure, and they have caused unnecessary nuisances to adjoining neighbours.	This is not an issue for the Green Infrastructure Strategy.	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General Comment	There is now an opportunity to 're-green' and renew an extensive open space between two Listed Heritage sites. Must ensure enhancement of the quality of place, and the environment, through high quality design. There should be environmental gains for residents bordering the site. Local people wait to be advised of the time-scale, shown plans and be consulted. The success of this project will be whether the necessary infrastructure will be intrusive or remove the amenity of existing homes. The local community should gain open and green buffer space from this development or it will be an imposition on established homes and the incoming community.	The detailed design of the Woodburn Nursery site, the type of housing proposed, and infrastructure required will be discussed through the Making and Growing Places DPD and the planning application process. Consultation on the DPD and any planning application will be in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and other statutory requirements.	No change required.
24	Yvonne Richardson		Support	General comment	Found the documents interesting, impressive and heartening – well done to all involved. Hope some of it has benefits for Northgate!	Comments welcome and noted. All of the principles will apply to green infrastructure in Northgate.	No change required.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Support	General Comment	Previously provided detailed comments on earlier drafts, and welcome the changes made in response to previous comments.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	General Comment	It does not give consideration to green infrastructure benefits that could be achieved by individuals within their own private gardens	It will be revised to include the benefits residents can have through their private gardens.	Make changes to the Strategy accordingly.
28	Young Peoples Forum		Support	General Comment	100% of members thought Darlington was very green.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
28	Young Peoples Forum		Support	General Comment	Very supportive of Strategy's concept, particularly liked idea of natural play.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Objection	General Comment	Majority used greenspaces, particularly South Park and other parks close to home. 5% either didn't have time to use them or weren't sure where to go. Majority considered there was too much dog dirt in greenspaces.	Comments noted. The Action Plan refers to street furniture; appropriate references to provision of dog bins will be made.	Include reference to dog bins appropriately in the Action Plan.

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29	Community Carnival Consultation Event		Support	General Comment	Majority felt strongly that green spaces should be protected in future and have better access.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
31	Dolphin Centre Drop In Events		Support	General Comment	Very positive about Darlington as a green place and as a reason for living here. Good awareness of the improvements made in recent years e.g. West Park, the LNRs, the Community Woodlands. Most frequently mentioned green space was South Park or the other parks and LNRs for local use.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
31	Dolphin Centre Drop In Events		Support	General Comment	The principles and themes of the GI Strategy were well supported especially the value for wildlife, the importance for quality of life, as a place to grow up and learn about the natural world.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
Darlington Green Infrastructure Action Plan							
1: What is the Green Infrastructure Action Plan?							
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Objection	1.0.3	These are numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 when the text states there is no corridor 2. Should it be 1, 3, 4, and 5?	Agree.	Amend text accordingly.
3: Prioritising Green Infrastructure Investment							
11	Matthew King	Hartlepool Borough Council	Objection	3.0	Should make more of how the document may allow the Council to lever in capital towards the delivery of the Action Plan, whether this be through Planning Obligations/CIL or through bidding for funding from regional or national pots that may become available in the future.	All appropriate funding packages including planning obligations/CIL, will be considered to deliver projects identified. The Action Plan will be revised to include delivery partners and timescales for delivery, available resources will be identified in the new monitoring framework	Revise Action Plan to ensure delivery mechanisms are clearer. Identify funding in monitoring framework.
4: Implementation							
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Objection	4.0	Would like to be involved in the delivery of the Action Plan, can add value to its delivery and development through the Tees Valley Local Nature Partnership, including pulling together innovative GI funding packages from public, private and third sector including the Forestry Commission (Woodland Creation, Big Tree Plant, Green Shoots/tree planting campaign), produce proposals for A66 corridor, work with communities who want to designate new Green spaces, and build on the EA and Stockton Council's support for the Stockton-Darlington Corridor.	Groundwork's support is welcome. They will continue to be a key partner in the development of the green infrastructure network. Any resources they can secure or propose will be welcome.	Add funding packages to monitoring framework. Partners will be added to the Action Plan.
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Objection	4.0.2	Would be useful to understand how the Action Plan might be used in planning policy and the weight that could be attached in the planning system. A diagram or document that shows links to Planning decisions, CIL and Section 106. Further understanding of the relationship between major allocations, SHLAA sites and other developments, would help determine where opportunities for GI enhancement might be.	The GI Strategy/Action Plan will become part of the evidence base for the new Local Plan and will help inform the site allocations and development management policies that are currently being prepared. A diagram will be added to the context of the Strategy to show how it links with planning documents as well as other Council strategies. The Action Plan identifies opportunities for GI at the strategic development locations. New GI allocations will be identified in the new Local Plan.	Add diagram to context appendix.
14	Fiona McGloin	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	Support	4.0.2	Embedding this strategy through the spatial planning system will ensure green infrastructure is an integral part of new development, particularly in regenerating existing urban areas.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
24	Yvonne Richardson		Objection	4.0.2	Understand the concept of connecting existing 'natural' areas to enable wildlife to flourish, encourage access to nature/heritage with consequent health/economic benefits, protect against a changing climate, provide a good environment for developers who will hopefully contribute to some of the costs. Am conscious that Northgate has little Green Infrastructure and is an area in need of regeneration and investment –how are developers to be attracted to invest in improving the area. Over the past 10 years development has made the area WORSE and where they have been successful, no Section 106 obligations have been imposed or have not been spent in Northgate.	The Planning Obligations SPD sets out the requirements for infrastructure from new development, including green infrastructure. New development is expected to mitigate its impact either by providing new green infrastructure or by making a contribution to improve existing space. This will apply to development in Northgate.	No change required.

Ref	Name	Organisation	Type of Representation	Section/ Para	Comments	Officer Response	Proposed Changes
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Objection	4.0.3	Groundwork can take forward GI Economic Valuation and provide a direct link to work with developers to enhance GI in developments.	The Strategy emphasises the economic value of green infrastructure. If developers require further justification of projects, GI Economic Valuation will be considered.	No change required.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	4.0.4	Mentions the collective responsibility of all stakeholders working in partnership where new development is concerned. Current residents must be confident that development will be effectively controlled by Planning Officers to avoid unmitigated impact on their well-being when they are situated at the entrance and/or along its perimeter.	Residents are consulted on planning applications in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and statutory requirements. This ensures that interested parties have an opportunity to comment of planning proposals, including impacts and proposing mitigation.	No change required.
11	Matthew King	Hartlepool Borough Council	Objection	Maps	It includes "strategic" sports facilities and allotments – why only "strategic" – all sports pitches and allotments are important elements of green infrastructure and should be included.	Other sports facilities and allotments are an important part of the GI network; all will be added to the detailed corridor maps.	Add sports facilities and allotments to corridor maps.
1: River Tees Corridor							
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Support	1: Tees Corridor	Increased access along the Tees corridor is welcomed. The lack of access between Blackwell and Hurworth is a major gap.	Comments welcome and noted.	No change required.
14	Fiona McGloin	Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council	Support	1. Tees Corridor	Welcome the recognition given to the importance of strategic corridors, including the River Tees. The promotion and delivery of green infrastructure will be more successful by taking this strategic approach.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
16	Mike McBride	Friends of Middleton One Row the Conservation Area	Support	1. Tees Corridor	Support the efforts to develop and maintain the Tees corridor in particular the stretch in Middleton One Row.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
16	Mike McBride	Friends of Middleton One Row the Conservation Area	Objection	1. Tees Corridor	The Front at Middleton One Row is a hidden gem. Previously it was a popular place for day trippers who came to admire the view and enjoy the village facilities. It is long overdue for TLC; restoring it to its former state should be given more focus in the Tees Corridor action plan. Would be very keen to help develop the strategy and pursue our actions which will support the aims and objectives of the plan.	The proposal at The Front, Middleton One Row is an important community led project which should improve the Tees Corridor. It has lead and key partners in place who are exploring resources which will help implement a clear vision.	Add The Front, Middleton One Row to the Action Plan for the River Tees Corridor.
22	Ian Bond		Support	1: Tees Corridor	Agree with the objectives of increased access along the Tees corridor. The lack of access along the Tees between Blackwell and Hurworth is perhaps the biggest gap in the Borough's ROW network.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	1A Teesdale Way	Add 'planting riverside trees to create shaded sections of river'. Welcome the proposal to increase the number of otter holts, but holts should not be installed in any areas where there is likely to be increased disturbance as a result of increased recreational activity.	Improving the quantity, quality and mix of trees alongside the Tees is an aspiration of the Action Plan. Following on from the successful use of holts along the Skerne, holts will be used at strategic locations along the Tees.	Add reference to trees. Clarify use of otter holts.
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Objection	1B: Tees Woodland	River Tees Rediscovered, Project 'Trees for the Tees' would support and help deliver 1B as well as increase the footpath network. Could also work with landowners and farmers to strengthen the buffer zone between riparian habitat and agriculture.	All appropriate funding packages and delivery partners will be considered to deliver projects identified. These will be identified in the monitoring framework.	Add known funding details to monitoring framework.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	1B Tees Woodland	Suggest that reference is made to Japanese Knotweed control.	Japanese Knotweed is not a particular problem in this area.	No change required.
2: River Skerne Corridor							
8	Brenda Marshall		Comment	2: Skerne Corridor	Hope that once the new footbridge has been put in the wildflower meadows are given time to re-establish. When the River Restoration finished the Council had a good programme for wildflower management and cutting regimes. It used to be a lovely area to visit, a place where people could sit outside and watch the wildlife. Its a shame that recently, because of the bridge going in the area hasn't been used properly and weeds have now established.	This area is scheduled to be restored using locally sourced wildflower seeds and trees once the building works have been completed.	Add new project for Rockwell Local Nature Reserve to reflect improvements proposed.
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Support	2: Skerne Corridor	Opportunities to increase access along the Skerne north of Great Burdon and Brafferton would help to open up a picturesque and historic landscape. Rstoring 'naturalness' to the River Skerne and the becks would significantly improve the sense of place and enhance wildlife value. The capacity of surrounding land for water storage is important in the light of predicted climate change impact.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.

Ref	Name	Organisation	Type of Representation	Section/ Para	Comments	Officer Response	Proposed Changes
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	2: Skerne Corridor	Welcome the inclusion of opening up culverts as part of green infrastructure improvements. Should include commitment in the Action Plan to ensure that culverts are opened up as part of redevelopment.	The Action Plan identifies projects that include opening culverts. But resources may not be available to undertake such works for every culvert. De-culverting will continue to be identified on a project by project basis.	No change required.
22	Ian Bond		Support	2: Skerne Corridor	Opportunities to increase access along the Skerne north of the urban area between Great Burdon and Brafferton would also further open up a picturesque and historic landscape.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
22	Ian Bond		Support	2: Skerne Corridor South	Proposals to restore a degree of naturalness to the River Skerne and the Borough's becks would make a significant improvement to the sense of place and enhance their value for wildlife.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
22	Ian Bond		Objection	2: Skerne Corridor	The capacity of the surrounding areas for water storage is important in light of climate change. Should consider area south of South Park which may have significant capacity for water storage given its topography as well as north of the urban area along the Skerne.	All greenspaces next to the Skerne including the area south of South Park and to the north of the urban area are identified and protected as flood storage areas.	No change required.
25	John Whitby		Objection	2: Skerne Corridor	The grass near the new footbridge at Haughton is not all cut, only pathways round the outside of the field are left clear for dog walkers, who are unable to pick up dog dirt and walk safely. Hope the grass will be cut across the whole field to allow better access for all and for children to play. Wildflowers should be planted at the riverside and around trees. Ragwort is not controlled. Sure people living in the area will plant wildflower seeds.	The wildflower meadow initiative is targeted to provide local benefit to residents as well as biodiversity. As such, there is an ongoing dialogue on design review and educational involvement with local communities. This area is scheduled to be restored using locally sourced wildflower seeds and trees once the building works have been completed.	No change required.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	2A TCF Flood Risk Management	Suggest that '...widen and deepen the river to increase channel storage' is reworded to '...increase channel and floodplain storage where appropriate'.	Comment accepted.	Make change as proposed.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	2B TCF Green Corridor	Refers to 'course fish', which should be 'coarse fish'. Flowering rush is no longer found in the Skerne, so this should be removed. 'Crowsfoot' should be amended to 'crowfoot' (it could be 'Stream water-crowfoot' if this is found in the Skerne).	Change typos as suggested. Flowering Rush is in the Skerne at Priestgate footbridge, observed the Council's Ecology Officer and River Restoration Centre in late summer 2010.	Make proposed changes as identified. No change to Flowering Rush.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	2D Mill Lane	Recommend that following '...more trees will be planted at the river's edge...' additional text is added to explain that this is '...to create areas of shade to help reduce water temperatures in summer and to reduce excessive inchannel reed growth'.	Comment accepted.	Make change as proposed.
22	Ian Bond		Objection	2F: Skerningham Countryside Park	Biomass growth is proposed for the Skerningham area as being of critical importance to the GI Strategy, but fail to see why that is. It is inappropriate for this area of rolling countryside, with the best landscapes in the Darlington area. Biomass at least coppicing, on agricultural land would ruin views unless of less visually obtrusive crops e.g. Miscanthus grass. Wouldn't be against biomass production in other areas if that is thought to be a good use of land.	Biomass is considered to be an important resource and would add value to the landscape between the edge of the urban area and Skerningham Woodland. The rolling countryside and the views particularly from Skerningham Woodland north would be protected.	Clarify location where biomass would be appropriate.
5: Darlington, Middleton St George, A66/A67 Corridor to Stockton							
18	Sue Shaw	Middleton St George Allotments Association	Objection	5: Darlington, Middleton St George, A66/A67, Stockton	More should be made of allotment sites as they play a very important part in the community and help with rehabilitation and mental health, as well as playing a crucial role in wildlife habitats. Map 5 shows none of the allotment sites which have been in Middleton St George for over 40 years. Am aggrieved that they were missed off such an important document. Hope this will be rectified in the near future.	Reference to allotments is made in 3.6. All allotments will be added to the maps.	Add allotment sites to maps.
18	Sue Shaw	Middleton St George Allotments Association	Objection	5: Darlington, Middleton St George, A66/A67 Corridor, Stockton	Not enough is being made of the historical Darlington to Stockton railway route, both as a wildlife walk and a cycle route. It is falling into disrepair and does not appear to have been cleared for some time.	This route has had a lot of development and improvements in the past 7 years; disrepairs, tipping will be investigated. Reference to this important historic route will be strengthened as a protected historic lane.	Identify protected historic lanes in Strategy and on maps.

Ref	Name	Organisation	Type of Representation	Section/ Para	Comments	Officer Response	Proposed Changes
A: Former Barnard Castle Trackbed							
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	A Former Barnard Castle Trackbed	'...Which elm' should be spelt '...wych elm'.	Comments accepted.	Make change as proposed.
22	Ian Bond		Objection	A: Barnard Castle Trackbed	The opportunity to open up the former Barnard Castle Trackbed line from Branksome to Piercebridge and even beyond to Gainford, working across Council boundaries would fill a significant gap in the ROW network. If it could be made available to cyclists then it could make a contribution to the sustainable transport network.	The first phase of this project has been partially implemented. When resources become available the remaining parts of the project will be pursued with the appropriate partners.	No change required.
B: Cocker Beck							
9	Brian Jefferson		Objection	B1: Cocker Beck	The water flow in this beck should be improved by reducing the flood risk arrangements. But it does appear to be free of the contamination that once blighted the stream when asbestos from the Darchem chemical works in Faverdale came via West Beck.	Project B1 aims to improve the flow and quality of Cocker Beck in the long term. Flood risk management cannot be reduced; the current standard of provision protects people and property in extreme flooding events. The quality of the water course has improved as a result of former uses being removed upstream near West Beck.	No change required.
9	Brian Jefferson		Objection	B1 and B2: Cocker Beck	Some clearance work needs to be done on the river bed and the bank sides to improve the flow. This would allow for more sustainable aquatic life forms which would support the introduction of small fish. The depth of water and access points would enable children to approach the water to examine aquatic life.	Comments accepted. Re-connection of the beck has realised many environmental improvements. Further wetland improvements have been identified within a larger scheme, should funding become available.	No change required.
F: Nunery Lane-Cemetery Lane							
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	F2: West Cemetery	West Cemetery is being pushed as a public park for the area. Although it is a historic park & it also continues to be a functioning graveyard and crematorium. It is unacceptable for it to be the single local park for this area because it has a morbid and sombre ambience. It is unsuitable for any activity that would inevitably cause interference, damage or conflict with its daily functions. As a public cemetery, designed primarily for pedestrians it is undoubtedly of special significance for individual grave visitors, perhaps researchers of family and local history or even naturalists but it can never be accepted for exercise or relaxation.	The GI Strategy aims to make better use of existing green infrastructure. F2 aims to encourage more people to use and visit West Cemetery to enjoy its unique heritage and quality biodiversity. Passive informal recreation e.g. walking, jogging or enjoying wildlife does not interfere with the daily functions of the Cemetery and would be acceptable uses within this significant greenspace. It will not become a park in the same way as South Park, this would not be appropriate with its primary use.	Amend F2 to clarify that only passive informal recreation will be acceptable in West Cemetery.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	F2: West Cemetery	Users of the Cemetery pay to use its facilities and must be given precedence above others. Who can responsibly authorise, consult and mediate regarding special interest groups requesting the opening up of 'parkland' vistas, or supposedly 'artistic improvements' and the potential re-arrangement, removal or even the desecration of long-standing graves or their funerary accessories. This is already happening. Need clarification as to who is accountable for the cemetery's management, appropriate conservation and any developments that require specialist knowledge.	Its use as a Cemetery will continue to be its primary purpose; the graves and their accessories will remain untouched and protected. F2 aims to introduce other sensitive users to the Cemetery, who are interested in local history, biodiversity or who will enjoy the well being benefits of exercising in a quiet space. The Cemetery will continue to be protected for its heritage and wildlife importance; improvements to boundary walls and gates may be required as part of standard maintenance, while adding some sensitive interpretation will not interfere with the main use of the space. There are no proposals to open up the space or add public art. The Council are responsible for the management of the space. If a Friends Group were established it would be a partnership with the Council; together they will help look after the space in accordance with agreed management plan so that appropriate specialist knowledge for any necessary works will be sought.	Amend F2 to clarify that only passive informal recreation will be acceptable in West Cemetery. Add that the Friends Group will work in partnership with the Council to ensure the special qualities of the space remain.
G: Central Park Link							
17	Dave McGuire	Sport England	Objection	G: Central Park Link	Describes Eastbourne Sports Complex as having 4 football pitches. Pitch numbers have varied over the years and it may be prudent to simply state "a number of football pitches".	Comment noted and accepted.	Make change as proposed.
H: A66 Corridor							

Ref	Name	Organisation	Type of Representation	Section/ Para	Comments	Officer Response	Proposed Changes
5	Malcolm Wright	Resident	Objection	H: A66 Corridor South	The East Coast rail line, whilst man-made, also forms a natural corridor for wildlife. Plans, in co-operation with the rail network owner should try to improve the ecosystems which run along the track. For many people, this is their only view of Darlington and it would be good to work towards making this space more natural in the years ahead.	Agree. A buffer zone will be added to the railway lines so that any works should see no less to biodiversity. Project H2: South Tees Link proposes to improve the biodiversity value and connectivity along the rail line south of Bank Top Station.	Include local corridor buffer zone to railway corridors on maps.
I: Rural Area							
19	Gillan Gibson	Campaign to Protect Rural England	Support	I: Rural Area	The specific inclusion of policies for the rural area is welcomed.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	I2 Environmental Stewardship Schemes	Higher Level Environmental Stewardship is a competitive scheme with limited targeted funding, with high priority areas identified. Darlington does not fall in these areas and so landowners must meet at least one target, the most relevant relates to farmland birds eg tree sparrow, grey partridge. It would be more appropriate to achieve the environmental and land management objectives through the Entry Level Environmental Stewardship Scheme and can achieve many of the same objectives as Higher Level Stewardship.	The Strategy and Action Plan will be amended appropriately; Higher Level Stewardship Scheme will be replaced by Entry Level Stewardship.	Make changes to Strategy and Action Plan accordingly.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	I2 Environmental Stewardship Schemes	Natural England is responsible for delivery of Environmental Stewardship so it would be appropriate to identify them as Lead Delivery Organisation.	Acknowledge Natural England's role in delivering Environmental Stewardship.	Add Natural England as lead partner in Action Plan for Project I2.
Appendices							
10	David Walton	Groundwork	Objection	Appendix 1: Technical Schedule	The GI Technical schedule is currently Council focused. This should be broadened out into a partnership. More detail on the GI Steering Group, its role and how its constituted would be beneficial. Groundwork could work as part of this Group and taking a lead on projects.	Lead and key partners will be added to the Action Plan, including Groundwork where appropriate. The Technical Schedule will be translated into a GI Guide and monitoring framework for easier use. In this context the GI Steering Group will also be revisited to ensure it is the correct forum going forward to best coordinate delivery.	Make changes accordingly.
General Comments							
13	Malcolm Steele	Tees Valley Biodiversity Partnership	Objection	General Comment	The route of the former coach road between Whessoe Road and Coatham Mundeville is missing. It has historic significance and could link to Heighington, School Aycliffe and Redworth.	The Patches Lane Green Corridor is a valuable local corridor potentially providing important links for wildlife and people through the urban fringe to the rural area and villages.	Add Patches Lane to Action Plan and maps.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Support	General Comment	Support the positive approach and are pleased to see that the Strategy is accompanied by an Action Plan to help deliver identified green infrastructure improvements. It complements the strategic flood mitigation proposals for the Town Centre Fringe and the emphasis on creating green infrastructure alongside water bodies to provide flood storage and help wildlife adapt to climate change, as well as the emphasis on increasing the use of sustainable drainage systems.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	General Comment	Welcome the commitment to controlling invasive species such as Giant Hogweed and Docks. Japanese Knotweed should be included as this is a known invasive species present in Darlington, including in the Skerne. It should be recognised that if invasive species are not controlled upstream outside the Council boundary then there will be an ongoing maintenance issue.	Reference to controlling Japanese Knotweed with partners will be added to the Action Plan, where appropriate, as it can only be managed at a landscape level through partnership working with key organisation, such as the EA and Network Rail, as well as neighbouring local authorities. Cross boundary working with neighbouring Councils including Durham will continue to address ongoing cross boundary green infrastructure matters.	Add reference to Japanese Knotweed in relevant parts of the Action Plan.

Ref	Name	Organisation	Type of Representation	Section/ Para	Comments	Officer Response	Proposed Changes
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Objection	General Comment	Flood control should be reworded to flood management. Flood control implies that there will be physical intervention to stop flooding occurring or control how and when flooding occurs. Flood management is a holistic approach which addresses flood risk, assesses a number of techniques from SUDS to increasing flood plain storage to manage the risk and reduce this where possible. This would be more relevant to Darlington where green infrastructure e.g. SUDs, flood plain storage and naturalising river channels are all being pursued to help reduce and manage flood risk.	Flood management appropriately describes how green infrastructure will be used to address flood risk in Darlington.	Replace flood control with flood management where appropriate.
15	Miss Catherine Lupton	Environment Agency	Support	General Comment	Would like to continue to be involved in the implementation of the Green Infrastructure Strategy, particularly with regard to projects associated with water bodies that are in the Action Plan.	The Environment Agency's involvement in the implementation of the GI Strategy is welcome.	No change required.
18	Sue Shaw	Middleton St George Allotments Association	Objection	General Comment	The Strategy looks quite impressive but it does seem to favour the centre, north and west of the town and the east seems to be the poor relation.	The Action Plan identifies projects that are known and able to be delivered in the next 5-10 years. There are several green corridors in the eastern part of town/Borough. It is a living document; if other deliverable projects become known these can be added, annually.	No change required.
22	Ian Bond		Objection	General Comment	The former coach road between Whessoe Road and Coatham Mundeville is missing. It has historic significance and has the potential to link to Heighington, School Aycliffe and Redworth.	The Patches Lane Green Corridor is a valuable local corridor potentially providing important links for wildlife and people through the urban fringe to the rural area and villages.	Add Patches Lane to Action Plan and maps.
23	Mrs Irene Ord		Objection	General comment	Public Consultation has been inadequately promoted. The documents have not been made accessible or comprehensible to all residents. The copies at the library do not always have appendices and are not on public display. The on-line drafts are difficult to read, particularly when maps and tables are being examined. Worthwhile public responses require time, effort, specific interest and personal commitment so that comprehension of the planner's visions and examples of potential development outcomes can be evaluated.	The Strategy was available to view at the Town Hall, all the libraries and on the Council's website. The documents and maps were split so that people could easily upload and view them. The documents were available on request in different languages, large print, tape or Braille. A publicity leaflet was produced which summarised the documents. 500 people and organisations were directly contacted about the consultation and press releases were made in all local media. Six consultation events were held so that people could discuss the Strategy with Officers. The consultation ran for 4 weeks. This was considered to be an appropriate time period for a document of this type and length.	The availability of the documents at the libraries will be looked into. The ability to upload documents and maps from the website will be looked at to ensure people can easily access material online.
24	Yvonne Richardson		Objection	General comment	There is scope to increase biodiversity between the Denes and North Lodge Park and perhaps the Skerne if it can negotiate the ring road/Northgate, through planting in people's back yards/streets and making more of green oases such as Greenbank Court, Dene Park Court, Dodds Street gardens, Thorne Court gardens, trees around Kendrew Street Car Park and Southgate House. There is a great opportunity to provide a much needed green space on Kendrew Street car park to enhance the Park and Conservation Area which is already used as an informal kick about space.	The redevelopment of the western part of the Town Centre Fringe may lead to small scale improvements in this part of town. Should new development come forward in this area, other green infrastructure requirements will be considered through the planning application process.	No change required.
24	Yvonne Richardson		Objection	General comment	There should be plans for a green burial site which will be fertile for more trees.	Finding an appropriate site for green burials is currently being explored. It would be added as a project to the Action Plan.	No change required.
26	Mr Whitfield		Support	General Comment	Agree with a controlled and active strategy regarding the green areas outlined.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Support	General Comment	These documents are extremely useful, well written and easy to follow and understand. The targets and reasoning behind them are clear and easily comprehensible. Welcome the retention of the link to the wider Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Plan. Welcome the plans for this Strategy to be adopted by the Council's Cabinet.	Support welcome and noted.	No change required.
27	Andy Whitehead	Natural England	Objection	General Comment	Concentrates upon targets and objectives that can be influenced by the Council.	The Action Plan and monitoring framework will include delivery partners, timescales for delivery and available resources. These will include other organisations as a lead or key partner.	Make changes accordingly.