



### WHAT THE LOCAL PLAN SETS OUT TO DO

- Protect, enhance and promote the quality and integrity of Darlington's distinctive designated national or nationally significant built heritage and archaeology as well as:
  - buildings, their settings and features of historic and archaeological local importance in Conservation Areas;
  - buildings, features and land marks on the local list;
  - buildings and features that reflect Darlington's railway, industrial and Quaker heritage; and
  - buildings on the local 'at risk' register.

### WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

The borough of Darlington has a wealth of distinctive and valued heritage assets within both the built and natural environments. The borough is a traditional market town with a world famous railway, industrial and Quaker heritage. As such, the Core Strategy states the importance of preserving and strengthening this heritage.

**Houghton Conservation Area** was extended in January 2015 at the request of the resident's association. The Council designated **Parkgate as a new conservation area** in Spring 2015. Parkgate is a key part of the Town Centre Fringe and its designation as a conservation area plays a key role in the regeneration plans for the area.

No. 138-148 Northgate was Grade II Listed in 1977, but despite being the home of Edward Pease and being where he met **Stephenson** to discuss a steam-powered railway, the List Entry did not reflect this. Following research by Darlington's Historic Society, English Heritage has updated the List Entry so it better reflects the building's national significance.

Recent new developments in the town, including the **Department for Education building** and the **Cinema complex on Feethams**, have been influenced by the impact they will have on Darlington's historic environment, and the development stage of each scheme included archaeological investigation which yielded some locally significant finds. They should result in successful schemes that enhance the town centre's vibrancy and local distinctiveness whilst respecting their historic context.

Where heritage assets exist in masterplanning areas, for example Blackwell, they are a key consideration with their significance being sustained or enhanced.

# Darlington Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2014/15

## BUILT ENVIRONMENT



### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Local Plan policies and the Design SPD are providing a solid foundation for negotiations and discussions with developers to ensure that built heritage and archaeology is safeguarded and /or recorded as appropriate.

### MOVING THINGS FORWARD: KEY ACTIONS

- Mark the 200th anniversary of Stockton to Darlington railway trackbed in 2025: It will be important to highlight the significance of this as it plays a key part of Darlington's sense of place and local distinctiveness.
- Embed ambitions for Head of Steam and other railway heritage in Local Plan

Last Updated Summer 2015

**Contact Us:** You can access more information on planning policy in Darlington at:  
[www.darlington.gov.uk/planningpolicy](http://www.darlington.gov.uk/planningpolicy)

If you are particularly interested in statistics and data for Darlington borough, you can view these at:  
<http://lis.darlington.gov.uk/>

Alternatively, contact the Planning Policy Team on **01325 388644** or email [planning.policy@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@darlington.gov.uk)

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