



# Northumberland County Council

Strategic Planning Committee  
2nd July 2019

## ADDENDUM REPORT

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**Application No:** 19/00247/FUL

**Proposal:** Construction of a publicly accessible landmark, commissioned to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II and the Commonwealth.

**Site Address:** Land At Cold Law, Kirkwhelpington, Northumberland

**Applicant:** Viscount T Devonport, The Ray Estate Office, Lynnheads Barn, West Woodburn, Hexham NE48 2TU

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That this application be GRANTED permission as set out in the report considered at the committee held on 7 June 2019.

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on a further consultation response received and amend recommended condition 20 as verbally outlined at the previous committee meeting.
- 1.2 This application was previously considered by Strategic Planning Committee on the 7th June 2019. Members resolved that the decision be deferred for a site visit.

### 2. Appraisal

- 2.1 Following the committee meeting officers sought clarification from the Council's Tourism and Visitor Economy Manager after comments were made at the meeting that no response had been received from the Council's Tourism, Leisure & Culture service.
- 2.2 The response now received does not result in a change in stance or conclusions of the main considerations set out in the appraisal of the Committee Report.

2.3 The Council's Tourism and Visitor Economy Manager provided the following response:

*I write on behalf of the Northumberland County Council tourism development section to state that we have no objection to the above project subject to it satisfying all statutory planning conditions and considerations. In making this statement, we would add the following.*

*Tourism is rapidly elevating in significance within Northumberland and is confirmed as being a critical part of our economic well being and facilitator of goods and services which can be enjoyed by our residents as well as our visitors. Statistical research indicates year on year increases in the performance of the county visitor economy. In 2017, almost £925 million was spent in Northumberland by 10.27 million visitors. This equates to an 8.6% elevation in economic value and 5.7% surge in visitors over 2016 and this trend has been consistent since 2013. The visitor economy now also provides over 14,800 direct and indirect full time jobs across the county.*

*To achieve the ambition of sustained growth, the county tourism providers and stakeholders are encouraged to adopt strategies which will include:*

- *Encouraging more visits and especially longer ones*
- *Extending the season with visits taking place across the whole year and not just in the summer*
- *Encouraging visitors to spend more locally through encouraging them to see, experience and take part in more of the opportunities Northumberland has to offer*
- *Continually driving up the quality of the county's tourism offer through demonstrating and promoting excellence and innovation Raising the profile of the county as a great place to work, live, visit and invest*
- *Helping to create attractive places and experiences for local people to enjoy*
- *Helping to sustain and develop services and opportunities for local people.*

*With specific regard to this proposal, it is believed that the structure will be a sensitive asset in relation to the landscape and the environment and it is noted that it will not exist as an isolated structure, being in an area already populated with wind turbines.*

*Whilst it is questionable that the landmark will exist as a substantially visited singular attraction, it will as an unusual feature and point of interest, add value to the total visitor offer within the county and as such will contribute directly to ambitions for sustained growth in our economy.*

2.4 In respect of the wording of condition 20 of the recommended conditions set at the end of the committee report presented to the committee on 7th June, it is

suggested that in order to avoid the need for visible lighting on the top of the installation the wording be amended to read:

*The developer / operator shall install MOD-accredited infrared warning lighting with an optimized flash pattern of 60 flashes per minute of 200ms to 500ms duration at the highest practicable point. The sculpture will be erected with this lighting installed and the lighting will remain operational for the lifetime of the development*

*Reason: In the interest of aviation safety.*

- 2.5 This amendment to the wording was verbally suggested at the meeting on 7th June and is included in this addendum for completeness.

### **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1 It is considered by officers that in this instance the consultation response and the suggested alteration to the wording of condition 20 would not have a material impact on the application's recommendation.

### **4. Recommendation**

That Members authorise the Head of Service to GRANT planning permission subject to the:-

The recommended Committee Report conditions as modified within this addendum.

### **Author and Contact Details**

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### **Appendix:**

Report to Strategic Planning Committee 7th June 2019

**Date of Report:** 18.06.2019

**Background Papers:** Planning application file(s) 19/00247/FUL