From:

Sent: 24 January 2021 16:23

To: localplan **Subject:** AGALA029

CAUTION: External Email

To Scottish Borders Council

I am emailing to object strongly to the proposal in the Local Development Plan to build housing on the bank opposite Abbotsford House. Any housing, especially the estate of 45 which you propose, will ruin the beautiful views we benefit from when walking in the Abbotsford Estate. So many of us have relied on spaces such as these for our sanity during 2020 and continue to do so in 2021 - it would be an act of enormous harm to residents of the Borders to spoil this amazing countryside for the sake of housing which could just as easily be built in other places where they would not have such a detrimental effect on the countryside.

In addition, the impact of the huge number of visitors to the area and the income they bring to the area should be remembered - this development will not enhance that, quite the reverse, and at a time when the new tapestry exhibition is a due to open attracting even more visitors, this proposal flies in the face of efforts to improve the area for visitors.

In better times visitors will return in their droves to the Borders, particularly with the growth of staycations and the heritage, landscape and accessible walking routes are all a big part of the attraction. This housing development would be a blight on one of the most beautiful riverside walks in the Scottish Borders.

Please rethink this damaging proposal find other areas for housing.

Yours sincerely Alan Hunter

Sent from my iPad