



**The Coal
Authority**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



RTPI
Learning Partner

200 Lichfield Lane
Berry Hill
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 4RG

Tel: 01623 637 119 (Planning Enquiries)

Email: planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk

Web: www.gov.uk/coalauthority

For the Attention of: Nia Thomas – Case Officer
Kirklees Council

[By Email: DC.Admin@kirklees.gov.uk]

11th December 2018

Dear Nia

PLANNING APPLICATION: 2018/60/93786/E

Outline application for erection of 2 dwellings at Land At Elm Street, Skelmanthorpe, Huddersfield, Kirklees, HD8 9BH

Thank you for your consultation letter of 26 November 2018 seeking the views of The Coal Authority on the above planning application.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, The Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

The Coal Authority Response: Material Consideration

I have reviewed the proposals and confirm that the application site falls within the defined Development High Risk Area; therefore within the application site and surrounding area there are coal mining features and hazards which need to be considered in relation to the determination of this planning application.

The Coal Authority records indicate that the application site is subject to the presence of a coal outcrop crossing the site which may have been subject to likely historic unrecorded coal mine workings at shallow depth.

This planning application is supported by a Coal Mining Risk Assessment dated 30 October 2015 and prepared by Haigh Huddleston and Associates. This report is only informed by a Coal Mining Report. As such the report author has reviewed the available information and has concluded that there are risks posed to development by past coal mining activity. The report author recommends that intrusive site investigations are carried

out to establish the exact situation in respect of coal mining legacy on the site. The Coal Authority would also expect consideration to be given to the risks posed to development by mine gas.

The intrusive site investigations should be designed by a competent person and should ensure that they are adequate to properly assess the ground conditions on the site in order to establish the exact situation in respect of coal mining legacy and the potential risks posed to the development by past coal mining activity. The nature and extent of the intrusive site investigations should be agreed with the Permitting Section of the Coal Authority as part of the permissions process. The findings of the intrusive site investigations should inform any remedial measures which may be required.

The Coal Authority Recommendation to the LPA

The Coal Authority concurs with the recommendations of the Coal Mining Risk Assessment Report; that coal mining legacy potentially poses a risk to the proposed development and that intrusive site investigation works should be undertaken prior to development in order to establish the exact situation regarding coal mining legacy issues on the site.

The Coal Authority recommends that the LPA impose a Planning Condition should planning permission be granted for the proposed development requiring these site investigation works prior to commencement of development.

In the event that the site investigations confirm the need for remedial works to treat the areas of shallow mine workings to ensure the safety and stability of the proposed development, this should also be conditioned to ensure that any remedial works identified by the site investigation are undertaken prior to commencement of the development.

A condition should therefore require prior to the commencement of development:

- * The undertaking of an appropriate scheme of intrusive site investigations;
- * The submission of a report of findings arising from the intrusive site investigations;
- * The submission of a scheme of remedial works for approval; and
- * Implementation of those remedial works.

The Coal Authority therefore has **no objection** to the proposed development **subject to the imposition of a condition or conditions to secure the above**.

The following statement provides the justification why the Coal Authority considers that a pre-commencement condition is required in this instance:

The undertaking of intrusive site investigations, prior to the commencement of development, is considered to be necessary to ensure that adequate information pertaining to ground conditions and coal mining legacy is available to enable appropriate remedial and mitigatory measures to be identified and carried out before building works commence on site. This is in order to ensure the safety and stability of the development, in accordance with paragraphs 178 and 179 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours Sincerely,

Maryann Orwin

**Maryann Orwin | BA (Hons), MSc Urban Planning
Trainee Planning Liaison Manager**

General Information for the Applicant

Under the Coal Industry Act 1994 any intrusive activities, including initial site investigation boreholes, and/or any subsequent treatment of coal mine workings/coal mine entries for ground stability purposes require the prior written permission of The Coal Authority, since such activities can have serious public health and safety implications. Failure to obtain permission will result in trespass, with the potential for court action. In the event that you are proposing to undertake such work in the Forest of Dean local authority area our permission may not be required; it is recommended that you check with us prior to commencing any works. Application forms for Coal Authority permission and further guidance can be obtained from The Coal Authority's website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-a-permit-to-deal-with-a-coal-mine-on-your-property>

Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by the Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available coal mining data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by the Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to the Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by the Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the applicant for consultation purposes.

In formulating this response The Coal Authority has taken full account of the professional conclusions reached by the competent person who has prepared the Coal Mining Risk Assessment or other similar report. In the event that any future claim for liability arises in relation to this development The Coal Authority will take full account of the views, conclusions and mitigation previously expressed by the professional advisers for this development in relation to ground conditions and the acceptability of development.