

**Consultation Response from KC,
Trees**
2020/93921 Huddersfield Grammar School, Luck Lane, Marsh, Huddersfield, HD1 4QX
Installation of temporary grasscrete staff car park (within the curtilage of a Listed Building)
Date Responded: 09/12/20
**Responding Officer: Nick
Goddard**
Responding Ref: TPO 03/79

The application does not include any detailed tree survey or arboricultural impact assessment for these proposals. The site is almost entirely within a protected woodland under Tree Preservation Order 03/79. The woodland provides a significant contribution to public amenity and the character of the area. The protection of the health and longevity of the woodland needs to be a priority in the design of the proposals. With the right design and tree protection measures, it may be possible to achieve some level of parking in this area.

To comply with policy LP24i and LP33, submissions need to show that they are complying with the 'national standard in relation to trees and design'. To do this they should be providing an arboricultural impact assessment, and for proposals such as these a method statement as well, in accordance with the current National Standard (BS5837). Details about the required documents to comply with current standards are set out in our guidance notes supporting the validation check list, available on our web site at: <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-applications/planning-application-guidance-trees.aspx>

Having read the DAS, I understand that there are to be up to 20 cars a day using this access and parking in this area. The proposal is to use Grasscrete for the parking areas to ensure no adverse damage to the root systems of trees and that this parking is to be used until Summer 2021. I note there is much detail in the DAS about the history of the Grammar School and its listed status however no mention of the protected status of the woodland.

There appears to be a misunderstanding of how Grasscrete is installed but the manufacturer of Grasscrete describes, on its own website, that it should be laid over a sub-base and the usually this is after topsoil has been removed. I use of Grasscrete is likely to result in excavation or stripping of topsoil and compaction on the site from the laying of the sub-base and weight of concrete. The lack of detail about these proposals gives no assurance that the trees will not suffer long term harm by these proposals. In addition, Grasscrete is not generally used as a temporary measure because it is not easy to remove once laid.

I'm afraid, I fundamentally disagree with the proposed method of construction of this car park and the long term health and viability of this section of woodland would be put at risk by these proposals and therefore they do not meet with policies LP24i and LP33.