

**Consultation Response from KC,
Policy**
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:
14/12/2020

Responding Officer: Helen
Rice

Responding Ref:

The application is located within the Huddersfield Grammar School complex. The school buildings, associated school grounds and playing pitches are allocated as urban green space on the Kirklees Local Plan (UG117). The majority of the site includes protected trees forming part of a wider TPO area (TPO 03/79/w7).

The proposal is for the creation of a temporary staff car park on the edge of the lower sports pitch, accommodating up to 20 cars. The car park is to be surfaced with grasscrete and removed at the end of the summer term July 2021.

Local Plan Policy LP61 (Urban Green Space) does not allow for development proposals which would result in the loss of urban green space unless specific exceptions can be met. The policy states that: "Development proposals which would result in the loss of urban green space (as identified on the Policies Map) will only be permitted where:

- a. an assessment shows the open space is clearly no longer required to meet local needs for open space, sport or recreational facilities and does not make an important contribution in terms of visual amenity, landscape or biodiversity value; or
- b. replacement open space, sport or recreation facilities which are equivalent or better in size and quality are provided elsewhere within an easily accessible location for existing and potential new users; or
- c. the proposal is for an alternative open space, sport or recreation use that is needed to help address identified deficiencies and clearly outweighs the loss of the existing green space.

The protection set out in this policy also applies to smaller valuable green spaces not identified on the Policies Map."

The proposal would result in the temporary loss of green space on the periphery of the sports field, when assessed against the criteria set out in Local Plan policy LP61 it does not accord with this policy as the land is not surplus to requirements nor is the proposal providing replacement green space or for an alternative open space use. Whilst the loss of green space is not significant it nevertheless represents a departure from the development plan.

Consideration will need to be given to whether the circumstances and benefits of the proposed development constitute material considerations and what weight can be attached to those given the UGS allocation in the development plan. This should take into account whether the development would have any potential adverse impact on the use of the existing athletics track, any direct or indirect threaten to the TPO trees which should not be permitted under Local Plan policy LP33 (Trees) and highway safety.