

**Consultation Response from KC,
Trees**
2021/92667 99, New North Road, Edgerton, Huddersfield, HD1 5QL
Erection of retaining wall, gate pillars and gate, alteration of existing access and new surface to drive (within a Conservation Area)
Date Responded: 05/11/21 Responding Officer: NG Responding Ref:CA32

The application form does not acknowledge the trees adjacent to the site which may be affected by the proposals despite the plans showing two large tree stems of mature trees just offsite adjacent to the area to be excavated.

The proposals to widen the driveway and entrance gateway requires a significant change of ground level within the rooting area of two significant mature trees within the Edgerton Conservation Area. The proposals are likely to have a negative impact on the long term health and potentially the stability of these trees. The two trees offsite are proposed for removal as part of the application, ref 2021/92734, to widen and improve the A629.

The submitted heritage assessment concludes that "The loss of some vegetation may result in impacts on views along New North Road, however due to quantity and density of existing trees, hedgerows and shrubs lining New North Road, any change is judged to be limited." This conclusion is based on there being no loss or impact to the adjacent mature trees which it seems clear there will be and there has been no evidence to the contrary submitted.

The trees contribute significantly to the character and setting of the conservation area and their loss to widen a driveway would not be in accordance with Kirklees Local Plan policies LP24i and LP33 however should the application for improvements to the A629 be granted consent prior to this application being determined then I would have no objection, as no other significant trees are affected.

Any consent granted under this application should be linked via condition to the A629 scheme, if possible. If that scheme does not go ahead then the work proposed in this scheme would result in the harm outlined above to offsite trees with significant public amenity which should be avoided.