

**Consultation Response from KC,
 Conservation & Design**
2022/91456 Southgate/Leeds Road, Huddersfield, HD1 1TW
Reserved matter application pursuant to outline permission 2021/91544 for erection of health and research innovation campus comprising: Class F1(a)-education; Class E(e)-medical/healthservices; Class E(g)(i)-offices; Class E(g)(ii)-research/development of products/processes; multi storey car park; Class E(a)-display/retail of goods; Class E(b)-sale of food/drink; Class E(d)-indoor sport/recreation/fitness
Date Responded: 16.06.2022
Responding Officer: Sebastian Pickles
Responding Ref:

The reserved matters application relates to the major development of a new University Campus. The site sits on the ring road and is on the immediate boundary of the Town Centre Conservation Area. The site is also within the immediate and wider setting of several Listed Buildings which include, Grade II Friendly and Traders Club, Grade II 14-16 Northumberland Street, Grade II 36 St Peters Street. The site also forms part of the wider setting of the Grade II John L Brierleys Mill.

In respect of the Conservation area the site fall into a key site line looking out of the Conservation Area when looking down Northumberland Street from the Grade I Huddersfield Station. The view has a clear linear site line along the street out onto the open hillside. This has of course been opened up since the loss of the tower block, however it does form a key site line.

As has previously been established the site has had a interesting developmental history with the earliest mapping showing back to back dwellings. The transition into the 20th century saw large scale change and the most recent development being a large-scale sports centre and tower block flat.

The previous outline application has established the principal of development on the site and the application is now considering the detail of the design.

The submitted design is highly contemporary. The submitted design and access statement shows that example and details have been taken from the other contemporary design within the Town Centre including the Oastler and Barbara Hepworth Buildings. The glazing system does appear to be well considered ensuring there is some permeability through the building. The materials palette has been kept to a minimum. The use of the contemporary design is supported as it provides a contrast between the historic core of the Town Centre and the proposed new University development.

The only concern from Conservation is the height and scale of the building. The proposals will have an impact on the site lines onto the Grade II Brierleys Mill. The site will also provide disconnect from the historic Huddersfield narrow Canal.

On balance Conservation consider the proposals will cause less than substantial harm to the Conservation Area and setting of noted Listed Buildings. Therefore, under Policy 202 of the NPPF the proposals should be balanced against the Public Benefit. The benefits have been established the initial application stage and further details have been provided of what the proposed development will bring.