



Mr Richard Riggs
Kirklees Council
Planning, Investment, Regeneration Service
Civic Centre 3
Huddersfield
HD1 2JR

Direct Dial: 01904 601982

Our ref: L01555367

13 February 2023

Dear Mr Riggs

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2021
& T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
& Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**

**GEORGE HOTEL, ST GEORGE'S SQUARE, HUDDERSFIELD, WEST YORKSHIRE
HD1 1JA
Application Nos 2023/90112 & 2023/90024**

Thank you for your letters of 24 January 2023 regarding the above applications for listed building consent and planning permission. On the basis of the information available to date, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the applications.

Historic England Advice

The George Hotel is one of Huddersfield's most important buildings. It has played a central role in the civic and social life of the town for 170 years and, along with its neighbours around St George's Square, has provided a grand architectural backdrop to people arriving and departing from the railway station throughout all the changes that have occurred over the decades.

As well as being architecturally impressive, the George has a high degree of social value resulting from the part it has played in people's lives over the years. It is also highly significant as the place where the Rugby Football League was signed into being in 1895, an internationally significant event that went on to shape the sporting and cultural landscape of the north of England and beyond.

The reopening of the George Hotel would make a key contribution to the vibrancy and economic sustainability of Huddersfield town centre and particularly the area around the railway station. Historic England sees the importance of this to local people, and we have been part-funding the initial phases of repair works to the George in order to create a good foundation on which to progress reuse of the building.

The continued use of the building as a hotel is critical to its historic significance and



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Historic England

will provide a considerable degree of public access to one of Huddersfield's best-known buildings. We are therefore highly supportive of the proposed use.

The project team has arranged a site visit to discuss the proposed alterations this would entail with the benefit of being able to view the interior of the building, which we very much welcome. We will provide detailed comments on the impact of the proposals on the significance of the building following that visit.

Recommendation

We would welcome the opportunity of providing detailed advice on the proposals following the site visit that has been arranged by the project team at your authority. If you would like to discuss anything in the meantime, please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely
Emma Sharpe

Emma Sharpe

Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas
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