JCA LIMITED
ARBORICULTURAL & ECOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

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FAO
Castle Hill Visitor Centre
Lumb Lane, Almondbury,
Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD4 6TA

JCA Ref: 21112c/AWe

December 15, 2025

REPORT ADDENDUM AT: Castle Hill, Castle Hill Side, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD4 6TA

A planning application has been made for the erection of a cafe / restaurant with bedrooms and interpretation facilities for visitors, together with provision of car parking and servicing facilities at Victoria Tower, Lumb Lane, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD4 6TA.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the site was provided by Quants Environmental in April 2017. Quants Environmental updated this to an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) in July 2019. An administrative error resulted in the updated EcIA not being submitted as part of the current application. The site was last visited by an ecologist in July 2023 when JCA provided a Biodiversity Accounting Assessment (BAA).

The EcIA is now considered out of date according to guidelines set by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). Therefore, an addendum to the EcIA by a competent ecologist, has been requested by Nick Hirst, *MRTPI* (Team Leader – Development Management (Major Developments), Planning and Development Services).

The addendum is provided by Adam West *BSc (Hons), ACIEEM*, based upon a study of the EcIA provided by Quants Environmental and a site survey which took place on 12/12/25. The survey took place outside the optimum period of April to September. The site is predominantly occupied by the artificial surface of the car park with small areas of heavily managed grassland also present. Owing to the low ecological value of the habitats present, the survey taking place outside of the optimum period does not, in the professional opinion of the ecologist, pose a constraint to the validity of the conclusions drawn in this addendum.

Following the review of the EcIA report provided by Quants Environmental in July 2019 and a walkover survey of the site in December 2025, it has been concluded that conditions on site have not materially changed since the EcIA was written in 2019 and, therefore, the conclusions reached by Quants Environmental, and the recommendations made based upon those conclusions, remain valid.

Yours sincerely

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