

Design & Access Statement

for:

New training gymnasium
and associated facilities for
The Huddersfield Giants

at

Laund Hill Sports Complex, Laund Rd,
New Hey Rd, Salendine Nook,
Huddersfield HD3 3XF

Our Ref: 473 Jan 2025

Introduction

This statement has been written in accordance with Government guidance for Design and Access statements, and has been prepared to demonstrate how the physical characteristics of the scheme submitted have been influenced throughout the process of assessment, involvement, evaluation and design.

This statement will address the following factors:

- Description
- Use
- Amount
- Layout
- Scale
- Landscaping
- Appearance
- Access
- Flood Risk
- Conclusion
- Heritage Statement

1: Description

This proposal is for the formation of gymnasium and associated facilities specifically for The Huddersfield Giants.

The building proposed is to be sized and located on what was formerly a Multi Use Games Area, which has now fallen into disuse.

This application should be read in conjunction with the enclosed drawings.

The Huddersfield Giants are a professional Rugby League Team in Kirklees, West Yorkshire. The new facility will provide a gymnasium, covered training area and associated facilities such as meeting and changing rooms. The Huddersfield Giants currently use the Laund Hill site for training, however they do not currently have the facilities noted above.

The site will be used on a daily basis by the players and staff that currently utilise the site, so there will not be any additional pressures on the site than already existing in terms if users. Car sharing is encouraged and the players and staff can use public transport or cycle which is achievable due to the sustainable location of the site.

The building will be built to a high standard of energy efficiency and modern methods of construction, as per the drawings within this application.

2: Use

The site was formally used as a Multi Use Games Area for the Laund Hill Community Club, rugby club and YMCA, and as such the proposed use for the site would remain as a sports facility for the Huddersfield Giants and would not affect the wider site as a whole.

3: Amount:

The proposal amounts the clearing of the Multi Use Games Area which is currently in a state of disuse as per the images below and the erection of the new building to accommodate the training facilities required for the Huddersfield Giants.
The existing hardstanding of the games area will be utilised for the internal floor base of the building and existing low wall will be removed, this also means there would be no affect on biodiversity within the site.





4: Layout

The layout is shown on the attached proposed plans (as shown below). This utilises the current entrance and access road to the sports facility, along with the associated parking area./ As the team already use the site there would be no increase in traffic or intensification of the site.

The new building is located adjacent to the rugby fields and exiting car park, which provides an ideal location for such a facility.





5: Scale

The overall site is approximately 21 acres in total which incorporates the fields, car parking, and buildings used for Rugby, Football, Function rooms and facilities and gymnasium.

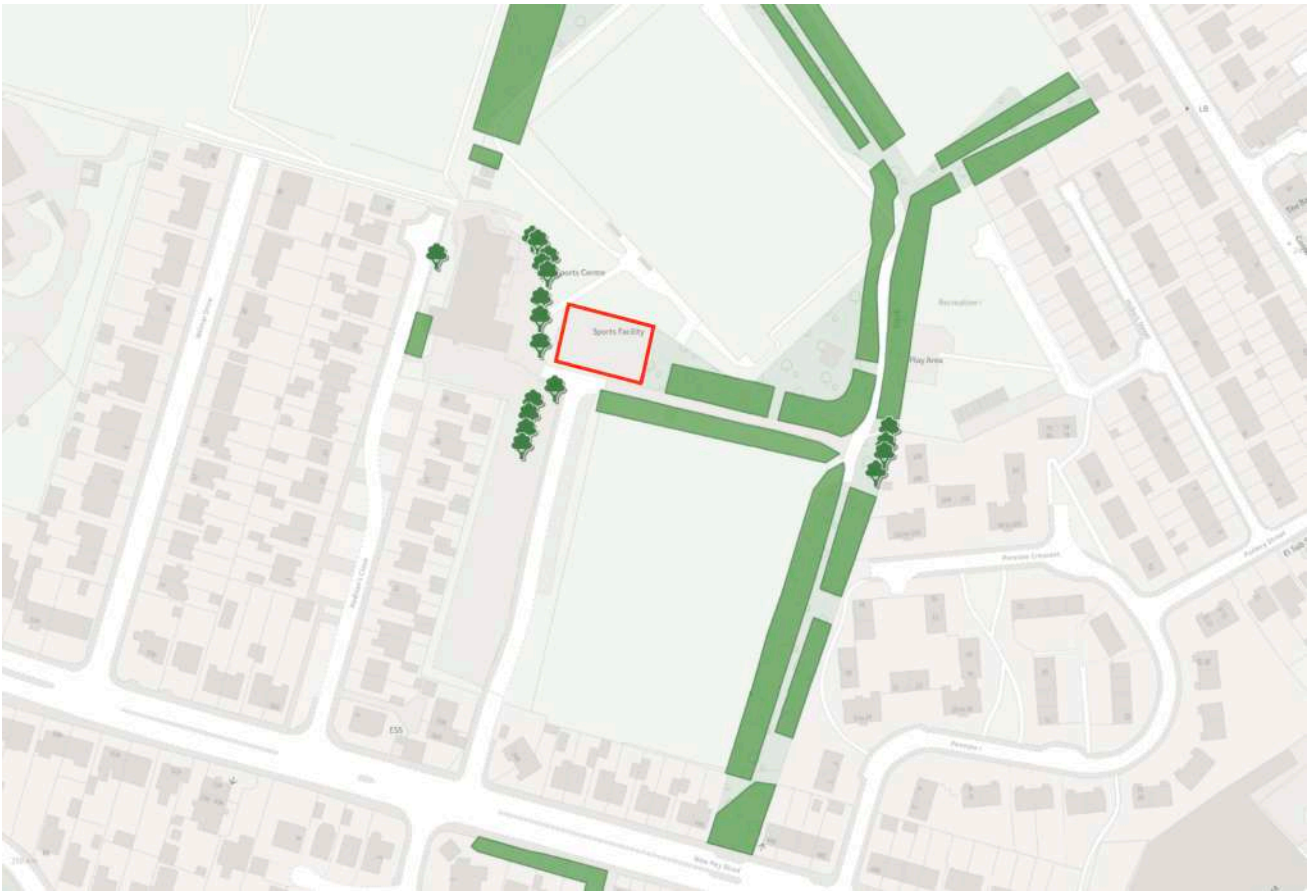
The height, mass and scale of the proposed building is in keeping with the Sporting/industrial/ commercial nature of the building, it is not visible from the main road and would have no affect on the street scene.

The scale and position of the building means that it will have no detrimental affect on the adjacent buildings on the site, nor on the houses located at the fringes of the site along Hadrians Close, Wilmar Drive and New Hey Road. The remainder of the site it bounded by fencing and landscaping, which again shield the proposed works from any of the surrounding properties.

6: Landscaping

Landscaping will remain as existing, the proposed will have no adverse effects on the landscaping of the site and will not have any affect on trees with TPO protection.

As can be seen below there are a number of protected trees within and bounding the site, however as we are building within the footprint of an existing hardstanding with concrete base, there would be no adverse affect on the protected trees.



7: Appearance

The appearance of the proposed building is of a modern building, with grey metal clad walling and aluminium framed glazing.

The sketch below gives an indication of the buildings aesthetic.



8: Access

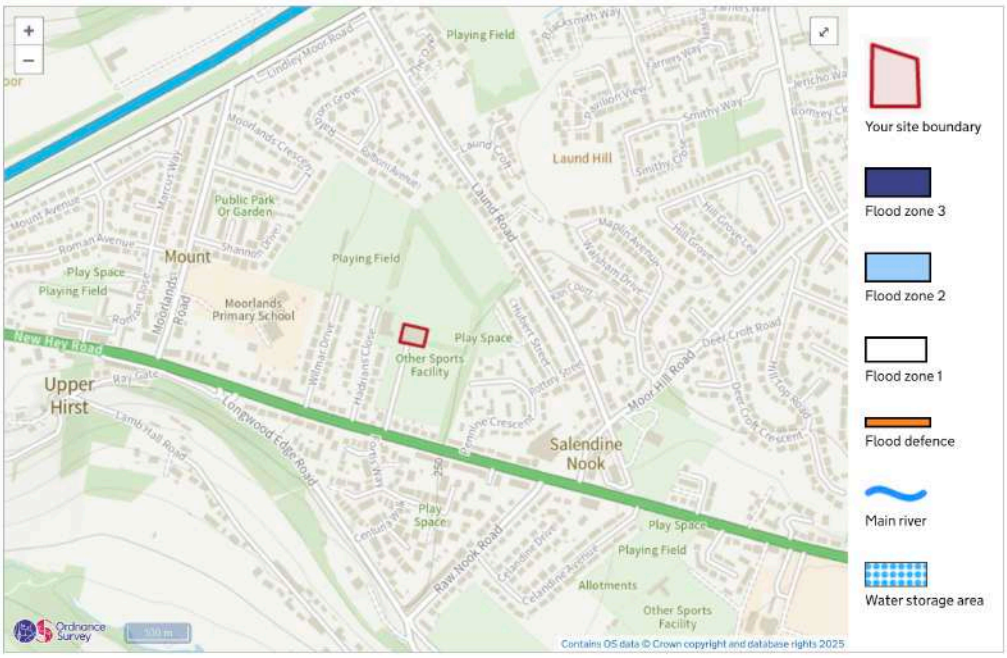
The site is approximately three miles north-west of Huddersfield Town centre and is accessed via New Hey Road. This links the site to the town centre as well as other local roads and major motorway network via the M62, leading to other cities, towns and villages in the district. Public transport services run along this road, and is easily accessible by foot or cycle, meaning the site is within a sustainable location within terms of access for its users.

Access to the site will be from New Hey Road via the existing access to the sports ground. This is of sufficient width and accommodates two way traffic to the entrance. As the team already use the facility and the existing access is sufficient there would be no adverse affects in terms of highways.

Access to the building will be covered via building regulations with the provision of level thresholds, ramped access and disabled WC to the ground floor.

9: Flood Risk & Drainage

The site can be seen in the image below of the flood maps search, showing there is no risk from flooding.



All other flood risk searches also show no risk of flooding (i.e. surface water, rivers and seas, groundwater and reservoirs) as shown below

Surface water More about your surface water flood risk

Yearly chance of flooding

Very low | Low | Medium | High

Yearly chance of flooding between 2040 and 2060

Very low | Low | Medium | High

What surface water is

Surface water flooding is sometimes known as flash flooding. It happens when rainwater cannot drain away through normal drainage systems.

▶ Why surface water flooding is a problem

Rivers and the sea More about your rivers and sea flood risk

Yearly chance of flooding

Very low | Low | Medium | High

Yearly chance of flooding between 2036 and 2069

Very low | Low | Medium | High

What makes rivers and sea flooding more likely

Low-lying areas that are close to rivers or the sea are more likely to flood when water levels rise.

This information takes into account any flood defences.

▶ Why flood defences cannot completely prevent flooding

Other flood risks More about groundwater and reservoirs

Groundwater

Flooding from groundwater is unlikely in this area.

Reservoirs

Flooding from reservoirs is unlikely in this area.

10: Conclusion

This proposal is for the reuse of an existing hardstanding, formerly a multi use games area, located within an existing sports facility, for the formation of a gymnasium and associated facilities for The Huddersfield Giants. This will provide a covered area for training in inclement weather and facilities for the team whilst training at the Laund Hill training site.

The proposed would utilise a site that is currently a disused concrete hardstanding, within an existing sports ground and would have no detrimental affect on any surrounding properties, businesses or trees subject to TPO's. If anything it would benefit the local economy by way of the employment within the team, the promotion of a local sports team utilising a facility within the community that follows their local team, providing a much needed training hub for The Huddersfield Giants.

The design, scale, mass and location of the proposed works can be compared to other buildings of a similar nature and would therefore have a comparative aesthetic to tie the building to its locale and use.

11: Heritage Statement

1. **Description**
   The proposed works look to improve and provide sports training facility to an existing local rugby team.

2. **Historic Maps (& Contamination)**
   In looking through historic maps of the site, it shows that the site can be traced back to 1848 to modern day, these show that the site has always been farm fields and then later the YMCA sports ground. This would highlight that there should be no foreseeable contamination of the site as there have been no buildings or works on the site that would give way to any form of contamination, therefore a desk top contamination report has not been produced on that basis.

3. **Significance of Heritage Asset**
   There are no archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic features to the site or its surroundings that could be considered a heritage asset.

4. **Setting of the site as a Heritage Asset**
   The settings and surroundings of the site are that of a relatively modern residential area, therefore the proposed is not located within a Heritage Asset site.

5. **Impact of the proposal**
   The nature of the building and its surrounding suggests that there will be no impact on the site or its surroundings and the proposed can only improve the impact of/on the site.

6. **Assessment Considerations**
   As there are no archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic features to the site or its

surroundings it is felt there is no need for any further detailed or expert reports.

1. **Justification for proposal**

At present the site is occupied as a sports and social club facility, with the proposed building being located on an existing hardstanding within the site. The proposed works will allow an established local rugby club a much needed indoor training facility, overall providing employment and economic growth, whilst allowing for no effect on the current surrounding areas. The facility is required by the club to allow them to grow and further integrate into the local community, this can only benefit the area and would have no detrimental affect in terms of heritage assessments.