Consultation Response from KC, Conservation & Design
2025/90549 78, John William Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1EH
Listed Building Consent for change of use and alterations to convert offices to 14 apartments (use class C3) (within a Conservation Area)
Date Responded: 18/7/25 Responding Officer: SC Responding Ref:

This Grade II Listed Building is located in a prominent location within the Conservation Area near the George Hotel.

The main external elevations retain much of the original character of the listed building including roof covering, stone walls with ornate modillioned eaves cornice and moulded sill bands, paired fluted consoles and original style of timber sliding sash windows and some original doors. The ground floor facing John William Street has two former shop windows which have lost their original subdivisions and a damaged door. The interior apparently has lost all original features due to fire damage and has been converted and subdivided into office accommodation.

The proposal to convert to 14 residential apartments states there will be minimal external alterations and the timber windows would be retained which is welcomed. The applicant should be encouraged to consider reinstating the original design features to the 2 large shop windows if possible (using archive images for evidence).

There would be some ventilation flues and soil vent pipes on the roof which would be visible at a distance, however, the siting on the roof is less prominent and visually more acceptable than altering the stone elevations. These should be finished in black.

A site visit should check that the original internal features have been completely lost. If there are interesting architectural features such as cornices, skirting boards, fireplaces and staircases, then these should be retained where possible.

The applicant should confirm if any secondary glazing is proposed, and try to design it to fit the pattern of the existing timber windows where possible.

Stone cleaning is unlikely to be necessary and could cause damage.

New external lighting and security measures should be confirmed if needed.

In conclusion, it appears to be a suitable use and will bring back a viable economic use to these important Listed Buildings.