



Ms Jillian Rann
Kirklees Council

Direct Dial: 01904 601957

Our ref: L01594315
8 July 2025

Dear Ms Rann

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

**TURNBRIDGE MILLS, QUAY STREET, HUDDERSFIELD, HD1 6QT
Application Nos 2025/91645 & 2025/62/91122/W**

Thank you for your letters of 24 June 2025 and 29th May 2025 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

Significance

Turnbridge Spinning Mill was built between 1871-73 in a functional style with some Italianate features. It has largely preserved its internal layout which allows us to understand the cast iron, fireproof construction methods and allows an understanding of how the building would have been used for different aspects of the cotton processing, an unusual material milled in this area at this time.

It also has a strong group value with the adjacent listed chimney (GII), the listed mill to the south of Quay Street (GII), the scheduled Turn Bridge, as well as several other former industrial buildings which make up a clear group of buildings associated with the cotton processing at the Spinning Mill.

Therefore the mill is significant in isolation due to its functional character and appearance, and evidence of a fireproof construction. It also contributes highly to the group value of the surrounding designated and non-designated heritage assets, particularly the chimney, mill south of Quay Street and the scheduled Turn Bridge which create a clear industrial character which is visually dominated by the mass and scale of the two mill buildings.



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Impact

The proposal would caused a high level of harm to the significance of the Turnbridge Spinning Mill due to the total loss of the building. Its significance is characterised by its functional character, evidence of the role it played in the regional textile industry, and its relationship with the surrounding chimney, mill south of Quay Street, and the scheduled Turn Bridge. Its demolition would therefore lead to a loss of any understanding of the relationships between the surrounding buildings and therefore a total loss of its significance. This harm is considered to be substantial in NPPF terms.

The proposal would also caused a moderate amount of harm to the Turn Bridge, mill south of Quay Street, and the listed chimney via their settings. The loss of the mill would erode the immediate setting of the group of designated heritage assets through a loss of understanding of the industrial context in which these buildings are set within. This harm is considered to be a moderate amount of less than substantial harm in NPPF terms.

Policy

Paragraph 212 of the NPPF states that, irrespective of the level of harm caused to the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be awarded to its conservation.

As per paragraph 213 of the NPPF where any amount of harm would be caused to the significance of a designated heritage asset this requires clear and convincing justification for the harm caused:

- In the case where substantial harm would be caused to a GII listed building, this should be exceptional.

Paragraph 214 states that where substantial harm would be caused to the significance, local authorities should refuse consent unless the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh the significant harm to significance. Or all of the following are achieved:

- a) the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and
- b) no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and
- c) conservation by grant-funding or some form of not for profit, charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and
- d) the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into





use.

Paragraph 215 states that where a proposal would cause less than substantial harm this harm should be weighed against the perceived public benefits of the scheme and were possible securing its optimum viable use.

Position

Historic England consider that in the schemes current form it would cause a substantial amount of harm to the significance of Turnbridge Spinning Mill due to its total loss. It would also cause a moderate amount of less than substantial harm to the scheduled Tunbridge due to the significant erosion of its industrial context.

Given our assessment of substantial harm we would ask that the Local Authority consider whether the presented clear and convincing justification is exceptional as to satisfy the tests of the NPPF.

We would ask that the proposals are revised with a view that the designated heritage assets in this area are celebrated and their special interest is preserved whilst providing a continued use for the wider area.

Overall, in the schemes current form and the identified harm to the GII mill as well as the surrounding designated heritage assets via their settings, we object to the proposals.

Recommendation

We consider that the issues and safeguards outlined in our advice need to be addressed in order for the applications to meet the requirements of paragraphs 212, 213, 214, and 215 of the NPPF.

In determining these applications you should bear in mind the statutory duty of sections 16(2) and 66(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to have special regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings or their setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which they possess.

Your authority should take these representations into account and seek amendments, safeguards or further information as set out in our advice. If there are any material changes to the proposals, or you would like further advice, please contact us.

Yours sincerely



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Historic England

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