About the application

Application number: 2025/92139	
What is the application for?:	Alterations to former library to form 14 apartments with associated internal and
Address of the site or building:	The Old Dewsbury Library, Wellington Road, Dewsbury, WF13 1HN
Postcode:	

User comments

Type of comment: A general comment	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes

I am very pleased that the old library building is going to be redeveloped and saved from further deterioration. It is a building of real historical importance to the town, and its preservation is welcome.
I would like to make the following comments and requests for consideration as part of the planning conditions:
Preservation of heritage features
The mural to be preserved and protected as part of the planning conditions. It is an important feature of the building and contributes to its historical and cultural value.
In addition, can the weather spire also be included within these preservation conditions?
Bin storage and waste management
Adequate off-street bin storage must be provided for the number of residents expected to live on the site. This has not been achieved in the flats further up Wellington Road, where bins are left on display and have led to fly-tipping, visual blight, and ongoing rat problems. These issues have had a negative impact on both local residents and nearby businesses.
It is clear from existing developments that insufficient bin provision creates long-term problems, we have a constant battle trying to keep this under control and whilst Kirklees do what they can, their waste department is severely understaffed and so it is an uphill struggle. This would be better if addressed properly from the outset for this site.
Type of accommodation proposed
While it is positive that the building is being renovated, I question whether this already deprived area needs additional low-income bedsits. Although the units are stated to be for sale, this does not prevent them from being rented out by landlords.
Daisy Hill, which has low-income bedsits has unfortunately developed a poor reputation, and the provision of one- and two-bedroom flats would be more appropriate. This type of accommodation would be more likely to attract residents with disposable income who can contribute positively to the local economy and help improve the area overall.