Historic England

Mr John Holmes
Kirklees Council
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Market Street
Huddersfield
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Direct Dial: 01904 601957

Our ref: L01597926

2 March 2026

Dear Mr Holmes

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

HUDDERSFIELD OPEN MARKET, BROOK STREET, HUDDERSFIELD, HD1 1DY
Application Nos 2025/92444 & 2025/92443

Thank you for your letters of 9 February 2026 regarding further information on the above applications for listed building consent and planning permission. On the basis of this information, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the applications.

Historic England Advice

Significance

Huddersfield Open Market was first constructed in 1887-89 by R.S. Drydale and is a cast iron structure consisting of six giant columns with elaborate, foliate capitals, iron trusses with decoration pierced into them. The large cast iron frame holds six aisles of slate roofs with north lights to provide natural light for the market goers below. Notwithstanding its fine cast iron construction, the market is animated by the freestanding stalls and the intangible aspects of market going really bring this building to life.

Overall, the significance of the listed building lies with the special appearance of the cast iron structure and its decorative design, and the communal values it possesses with it remaining to be used as a market.

Impact

We consider that the insertion of glazing would cause a small amount of harm to the significance due to the potential impact upon the significance due to the enclosure of the ground floor level which historically would have been open.

Policy

Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

This application should consider paragraphs 212, 213 and 215 of the NPPF.

Position

Whilst the inclusion of permanent glazing would permanently enclose the ground floor level of the open market. In Historic England's previous advice we outlined the present architectural treatment which includes permanent kiosks/units and roller security shutters which are somewhat harmful to significance in their own right, should be considered when considering the impact of other elements of the scheme. Therefore we would make the same recommendation when consdering the glazing.

Whilst the glazing would cause a small (less than substantial) amount of harm, this is considered to provide some visual permeability akin to the historically open appearance of this level of the building which has the potential to reduce this harm. The design and construction should look to preserve and sustain the significance of this highly significant building through factoring in the appearance of the glazing found at upper levels of the building.

Regarding the balance of this harm against any perceived public or heritage benefits, this an exercise for the Local Planning Authority to undertake during the decision-making process.

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, 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.

And,

Section 72(1) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas.

Your authority should take these representations into account in determining the applications. If there are any material changes to the proposals, or you would like further advice, please contact us. Please advise us of the decision in due course.

Historic England

Yours sincerely

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