



ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

ADDENDUM

APRIL 2026

Our Cultural Heart – Phase II.

Environmental Statement – Addendum.

On behalf of Kirklees Council 'Our Cultural Heart'.

Date: April 2026 | Pegasus Ref: P24_2024_LDS_CC Author: CC



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1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Environmental Statement Addendum has been prepared to accompany a S73 application on behalf of Kirklees Council ("the Applicant") to facilitate changes to the approved plans and documents (as identified by Condition 2) for the existing Library and Gallery building phase of the consented 'Our Cultural Heart' (OCH) development in Huddersfield.
- 1.2. Planning permission was originally granted under application reference 2022/48/93248/W for the below description of development:

"Demolition of existing Piazza shopping centre; part removal of Queensgate Market; demolition/retention of service tunnels; redevelopment of the site to form new public realm space (including public park and gardens, play areas, public square/outdoor event space); refurbishment and change of use of existing Queensgate Market Hall into food hall (Use Class E (b) sale of food and drink for consumption, mostly, on the premises); refurbishment and extension of existing library and art gallery building to form museum (Use Class F.1); change of use of part existing market hall building and extension to form public library (Use Class F.1); erection of indoor event venue incorporating multi-storey car park below (Sui-Generis); erection of public gallery building (Class F.1); associated infrastructure on land and buildings at Queensgate Market, Huddersfield Library and Art Gallery, and Piazza (and The Shambles) Shopping Centre (part Listed Building/part within a Conservation Area)"
- 1.3. This application was supported by an Environmental Statement, the Non-Technical Summary of which is included at Appendix 1. Full planning permission, along with two listed building consents (relating to the existing Queensgate Market Hall building and the existing Library and Gallery respectively) were granted on 21st July 2023. Relating to Phase I (for the new library and food hall, associated public real) at the Market Hall, a S73 amended plans consent was granted on 18th June 2024 (2024/70/90257/W), alongside a Listed Building Consent (LBC) (granted 25th June 2024) for the revised works (2024/90270) to the Market Hall building.
- 1.4. The Footnotes of the original Decision Notice includes a list of approved plans and documents.
- 1.5. Subsequently, in August 2024 a S73 (LPA reference 2024/92472) and an accompanying revised LBC (LPA reference 2024/92473) was submitted to the LPA relating to the existing library and gallery building only. This S73 application was approved 23rd April 2025, with the LBC granted 14th November 2024. Collectively, these applications accommodated changes to the design led by the retention of the existing gallery use within the building and for this to operate alongside the new museum use.
- 1.6. Since the grant of these applications, the building has been subject to further analysis and design iteration. These changes are set out below and set out how the scheme will integrate into the current site context and also the further development of the overall OCH masterplan.

- 1.7. Discussions have been held with the Local Planning Authority, particularly the Council's Conservation Officer, and this has resulted in a number of amendments and clarifications to the scheme prior to this submission.
- 1.8. It is important to note that all works remain within the existing red line boundary, with the submitted drawings showing the extent of works within that wider red line boundary and specific to this building and its immediate surroundings application.
- 1.9. Phase 1 of the development is underway, leading toward the completion of the new library, food hall and outdoor event space.
- 1.10. At this stage, the remaining elements of the overall OCH Masterplan (such as the new build gallery, the venue/MSCP and the public realm) continue to form the baseline of the overall scheme, until it may or may not be amended. This ES Addendum considers the effects of these changes, against that baseline.
- 1.11. The proposed description of development for this S73 application is as follows:
"Variation of condition 2 (plans and specifications) of previous permission 2024/92472 for demolition of existing Piazza shopping centre; part removal of Queensgate Market; demolition/retention of service tunnels; redevelopment of the site to form new public realm space (including public park and gardens, play areas, public square/outdoor event space); refurbishment and change of use of existing Queensgate Market Hall into food hall (Use Class E (b) sale of food and drink for consumption, mostly, on the premises); refurbishment and extension of existing library and art gallery building to form museum (Use Class F.1); change of use of part existing market hall building and extension to form public library (Use Class F.1); erection of indoor event venue incorporating multi-storey car park below (Sui-Generis); erection of public gallery building (Class F.1); associated infrastructure on land and buildings at Queensgate Market, Huddersfield Library and Art Gallery, and Piazza (and The Shambles) Shopping Centre (part Listed Building/part within a Conservation Area)."
- 1.12. The schedule of changes can be summarised as follows:

Museum and Gallery Design Changes
- 1.13. The principles of the refurbishment approach are largely maintained as originally approved; then by the S73 (2024/92472); and its accompanying LBC (2024/92473). This being led by the retention of the existing gallery use and then consistent with the original consent some elements of the existing library and museum being demolished (to facilitate the extension to the building, but positively lesser in extent), retained fabric upgraded and supported by a new build extension works.
- 1.14. The originally approved Environmental Statement (ES) set out that the scheme, as presently approved (for works to the existing Library and Gallery building, a Class F.1 use) would amount to around 6,000sqm (including the extension). The 2024 consent indicated a gross external area of 6,617sqm. The now submitted DAS Addendum for these proposed works set out that the gross external area is now reduced to 6,308sqm, driven largely by a reduced basement area. This represents a very modest

change to the extent of development. It is noteworthy that the approved amendments to the new library and food hall stage at the Market Hall, reduced the scale of the new library (Class F.1) development by some 470sqm from the original consent.

1.15. Key differences in the amended scheme are fully described within the submitted DAS addendum, but are summarised below:

- Retention and enhancement of access and inclusivity, maintaining the ambitions
- of the original scheme;
- The scale, massing and form of the extension follows that of the approved scheme, sitting in the same footprint and follows the same design and material principles established at the time of the original consent, with limited external amendments to window locations for example;
- Amendments to the basement level (reduced floorspace);
- Changes to the lower ground level to allow for increased public use and back of house spaces;
- The upper ground level has been amended, principally to relate to building regulations and retains the principles of the 2024 consent;
- These changes have enabled the exhibition spaces and toilet facilities on level
- 1 to be amended, offering greater flexibility;
- At level 2, the picture store has been relocated, improving the efficiency and operation of the gallery and storage spaces. Toilet provision has been amended, increasing gallery space;
- Safe access walkways have been added to the roof plan, with the principles of plant and machinery remaining the same as before.

Public Realm Changes

1.16. The main changes can be summarised follows, with more detail being found within the submitted Design and Access Addendum.

- More detail and amendments upon the immediate environs of the building, particularly the use/activity of associated spaces, linked to the combined Museum and Gallery (including how the building is now proposed to be accessed); and
- Amendments to the transition of changing levels across the external areas of
- the site, to the internal spaces.

1.17. The purpose of this Environmental Statement Addendum is to identify whether there would be any significant impacts upon the proposed development following changes to the approved plans, that have not already been addressed in the original Environmental Statement. The addendum should therefore be read alongside the Environmental Statement which it serves to update.

1.18. The location of the proposed development is shown in the Non-Technical Summary, at **Appendix 1**.

1.19. The content of the ES Addendum comprises a section addressing each of the topics which were covered in the original Environmental Statement, as follows:

- Chapter 2: Planning Policy Context
- Chapter 3: Socio-Economics; Chapter 4: Cultural Heritage;

- Chapter 5: Transport and Air Quality.

1.20. This ES Addendum should be made available by Kirklees Council for public viewing during normal office hours and online via the Council's planning application webpage. For details or where it can be viewed and the times it will be available, contact Kirklees Council's planning department.

2. Planning Policy Context

2.1. The Environmental Statement included a summary of the relevant development plan and national planning policy, against which the planning application for the Proposed Development was considered.

Updates to Local and National Policy

2.2. There have been no changes to local Development Plan policy.

2.3. A revised version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published on 20th December 2023 and superseded that being considered (i.e. NPPF September 2024) at the time of the original consent. The 2024 S73 application, including its ES Addendum considered the effects of those changes to the NPPF. Since the determination of the 2024 S73 and LBC there has been a further iteration of the NPPF, dated December 2024 (although there is also currently, at the time of writing, a live consultation on a further revision to the NPPF).

2.4. The published, December 2024 NPPF is a material consideration in planning decisions. Of most relevance to this proposal is the following:

2.5. Paragraph 85 to 86 of the NPPF set out the Government's intention to build a strong, competitive economy, with significant weight to be placed on the need to support economic growth.

2.6. Section 7 of the NPPF seeks to ensure the vitality of town centres, including taking a positive approach to their growth, management of adaptation.

2.7. Section 8 relates to healthy and safe communities, whereby there is a promotion of social interaction with mixed use developments being specifically mentioned (repeated in Section 11). Also, to provide the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services that the community needs. Access to high quality open spaces is also highlighted.

2.8. Section 9 relates to sustainable transport, recognising the role of accessibility by a range of transport modes, with a priority toward pedestrian and cycling movements.

2.9. Section 12 relates to achieving well-designed spaces, noting the creation of places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and wellbeing.

2.10. Section 16 sets out Government policy toward conserving and enhancing the historic environment.

2.11. Notwithstanding the changes that have been made to the NPPF, the conclusions of the Environmental Statement remain unchanged, although in qualitative terms the scheme can be regarded as being in compliance with the proposed changes to the NPPF outlined above.

3. Socio-Economics

Introduction

- 3.1. Socio-economics was submitted as Chapter 6 of the ES in the application submitted in September 2022 (hereafter referred to as 'Section 6 of the Appendix'). This Addendum is provided to identify any updates that are relevant to socio-economics due to the changes outlined in Section 1 of the Addendum.
- 3.2. The aspects of the ES chapter that have been addressed and updated as part of this Addendum are:
 - Assessment Approach.
 - Baseline.
 - Assessment of Likely Significant Effects.
 - Cumulative Effects.
 - Summary.

Assessment Approach

- 3.3. The assessment approach has remained broadly the same with no changes being made to the methodology, assessment criteria, scoping and consultation responses and limitations to the assessment. In Section 6 of the Appendix (**Appendix 2**), two scenarios were assessed as outlined in Table 6.1. These were (1) 'Business As Usual (BAU)' and (2) 'Preferred Way Forward (PWF)' scenarios. For the purpose of this Addendum, only scenario (2) PWF has been considered given that the changes only relate to the assumptions made as part of this scenario.
- 3.4. The original assumptions for the delivery of the PWF were the construction of a new museum which will be located in the existing library building and a new standalone gallery. The new PWF assessed in this addendum relates to the revised scheme which proposes a combination of museum and art gallery, within the similar footprint as the previously approved museum only scheme. The uses will share services within the building and all be under the same use class F1. These changes are summarised in [Table 3-1](#).

Table 3-1: Changes to the PWF

Original Preferred Way Forward	Updated Preferred Way Forward
The original PWF as outlined in Table 6.1 of Section 6 of the Appendix involves the construction of a new Venue and Food Hall. There will be a new Library partly integrated into the Queensgate market combined with a new separate Gallery. The current Library will be refurbished to incorporate a new Museum.	The updated PWF will include all elements of the original proposal with a change to the museum and art gallery. The museum and art gallery will now be combined into one building. The proposal follows the same principles of remodelling the existing grade II listed building, alongside areas of demolition to provide a new extension to the north. The proposed museum and art gallery will have a GEA of 6,617 sq. m., of which 2,828 sq. m. is within a new extension, part of which is below ground.

- 3.5. The original period of construction was assumed to be 3 years. The construction effects of this addendum have been assessed based on a construction period that could extend up to 2031.

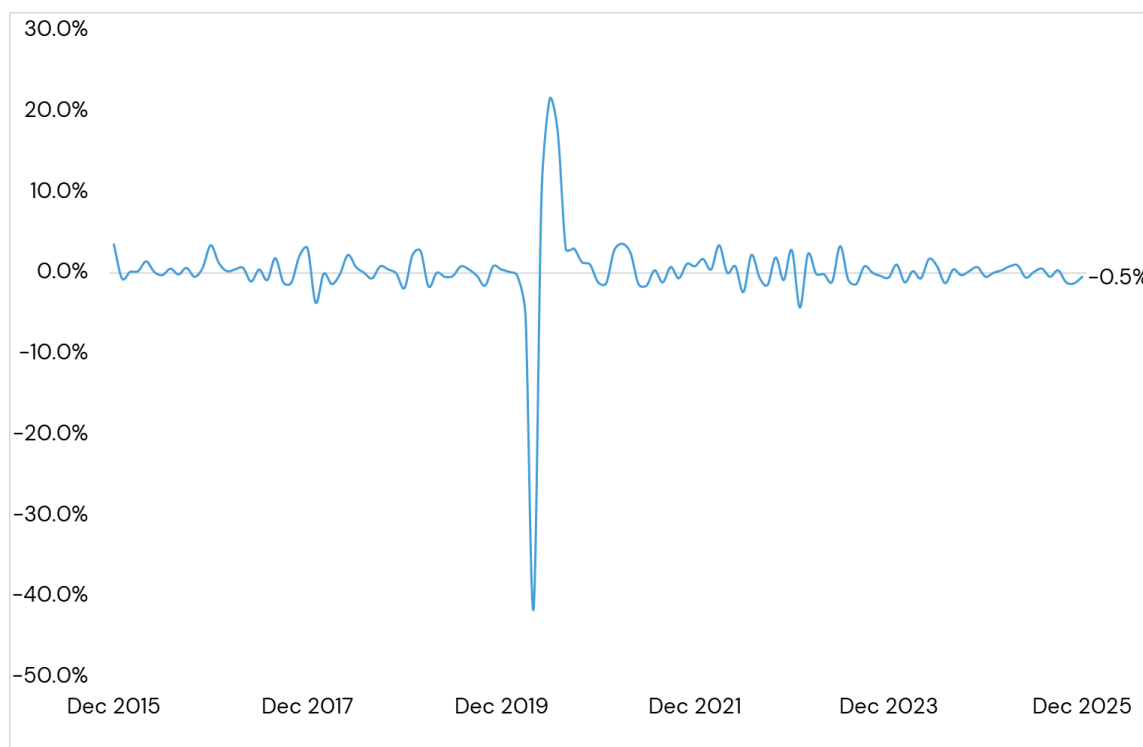
Baseline Conditions

- 3.6. An update to the baseline is presented to account for the most recent publicly available data. Where the data presented in Section 6 of the Appendix remains the most recent, no further update is presented and is made clear in this Addendum.

Construction

- 3.7. Between November and December 2025, construction output increased by 0.8% (see Figure 3-1). This follows a decrease of 0.1% between October and November. To ensure that the recent growth is maintained, it is important for the sector to continue to see further investment, such as the investment generated by the Proposed Development, that will support jobs and boost growth.

Figure 3-1: UK Monthly Construction Output

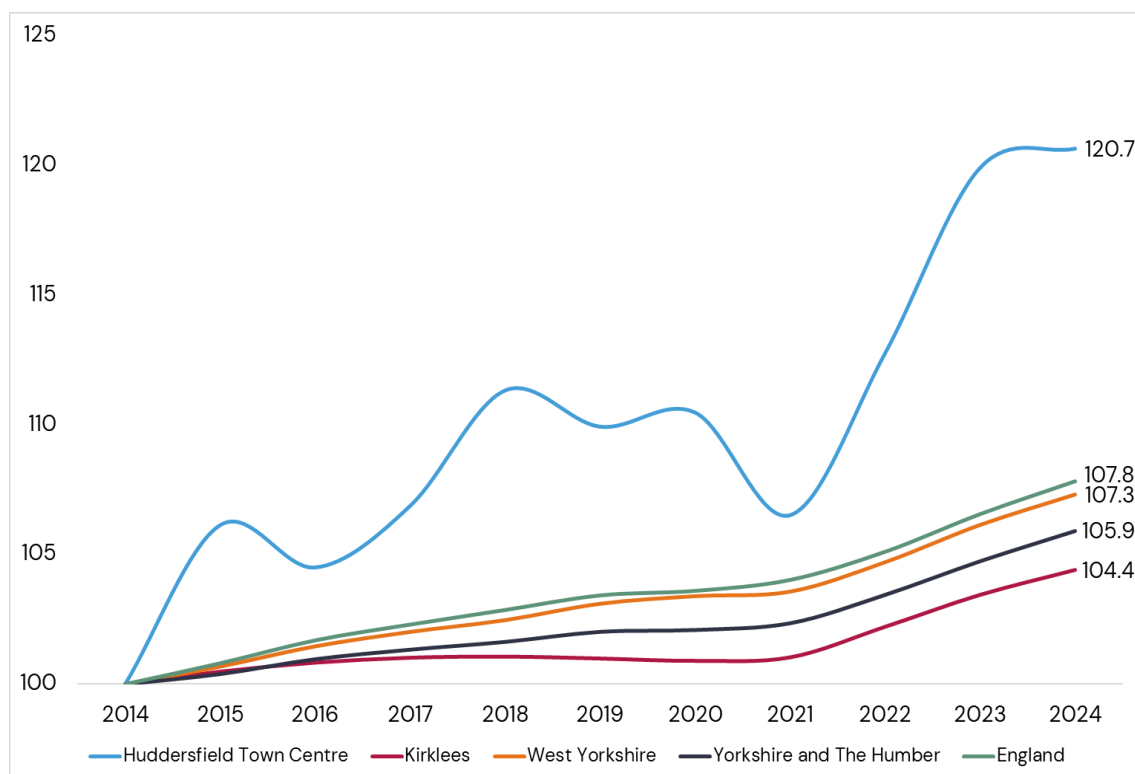


Source: ONS

Population

- 3.8. Figure 3-2 presents the population change in Huddersfield Town Centre, Kirklees, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Yorkshire and the Humber and England between 2014 and 2024. In this time the population of Kirklees increased by 4.4%, an absolute rise of 18,811 people. This was below the increase in population seen in Huddersfield Town Centre (20.7%), West Yorkshire Combined Authority (7.3%), Yorkshire and the Humber (5.9%) and England (7.8%).

Figure 3-2: Population Change, 2014-2024 (2014=100)



Source: ONS, mid-year population estimates

Population Projections

- 3.9. The most recent subnational ONS population projections (2022-based) indicate that the population of Kirklees is expected to increase by 29,060 between 2022 and 2042 (a rise of 6.6%). This is below the projected increase in population in West Yorkshire (9.1%), Yorkshire and the Humber (8.6%) and England (10.8%).
- 3.10. Tables 2.5–2.7 show the population projections by age in Kirklees, West Yorkshire, Yorkshire and the Humber, and England between 2022 and 2042 respectively. Over this timeframe the fastest growing age group in Kirklees are those aged 65+ with a projected increase of 29.6%. The number of people aged 0–15 in Kirklees are projected to decrease by 13.7% and the number of people aged 16–64 are projected to increase by 6.5%.
- 3.11. Kirklees is projected to see a lower increase in its working age population than all other areas (6.5% compared to 10% in West Yorkshire, and 7.9% regionally and 9.7% nationally). This is an opportunity for the area, as the younger population can help boost labour market supply as the older members of the workforce reach retirement age and become economically inactive. It is, therefore, vital that younger people are retained within the area through schemes such as the Proposed Development.

Table 3-2: Population Projections by age in Kirklees, 2022–2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 15	87,050	75,127	-11,923	-13.7%
Aged 16 to 64	272,338	290,118	17,780	6.5%
Aged 65+	78,406	101,606	23,200	29.6%
All Ages	437,794	466,854	29,060	6.6%

Source: ONS, Mid-year population projections

Table 3-3: Population Projections by age in West Yorkshire Combined Authority, 2022–2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Aged 0 to 15	472,738	419,821	-52,917	-11.2%
Aged 16 to 64	1,504,109	1,655,091	150,982	10.0%
Aged 65+	400,151	519,103	118,952	29.7%
All Ages	2,376,998	2,594,030	217,032	9.1%

Source: ONS, Mid-year population projections

Table 3-4: Population Projections by age in Yorkshire and the Humber, 2022-2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Age d 0 to 15	1,026,071	910,125	-115,946	-11.3%
Age d 16 to 64	3,450,073	3,721,519	271,446	7.9%
Age d 65+	1,062,069	1,380,599	318,530	30.0%
All Ages	5,538,213	6,012,258	474,045	8.6%

Source: ONS, Mid-year population projections

Table 3-5: Population Projections by age in England, 2022-2042

	2022	2042	Absolute Change	% Change
Age d 0 to 15	10,567,635	9,646,795	-920,840	-8.7%
Age d 16 to 64	35,915,152	39,408,988	3,493,836	9.7%
Age d 65+	10,629,755	14,205,816	3,576,061	33.6%
All Ages	57,112,542	63,261,582	6,149,040	10.8%

Source: ONS, Mid-year population projections

Deprivation

- 3.12. The most recent English indices of deprivation were published in October 2025 by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. They provide statistics on relative deprivation in small areas in England. The small areas are measured as lower super output areas (LSOAs) which are typically built from four to six output areas to be as consistent in population size as possible.
- 3.13. England has 33,755 lower super output areas (LSOAs, 2021-based). The Proposed Development falls within two LSOAs: 'Kirklees 029D' and 'Kirklees 042D'. In terms of deprivation, all the LSOAs have been ranked in the English Indices of Deprivation (2025) from 1 (being the most deprived) to 33,755 (being the least deprived). Overall, the Kirklees 029D LSOA ranks at 2,398 putting it within the top 10% most deprived LSOAs in England, and Kirklees 042D ranks at 8,938, putting it in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs. Tables 3-6 and 3-7 presents full analysis of the domains of deprivation for the LSOAs.
- 3.14. The highest domain for Kirklees 029D is the crime domain, with a ranking of 1,455 putting it in the top 10% most deprived LSOAs in the country for this domain. Kirklees 042D's highest domain is the health domain with a ranking of 2,029, putting it in the top 10% most deprived for this domain. The lowest domain for Kirklees 029D is in the barriers to housing and services domain with a rank of 9,639, this ranking puts Kirklees 029D in the top 30% most deprived LSOAs for this domain. For Kirklees 042D LSOA, the lowest domain is income, with a ranking of 12,673, putting it in the top 40% most deprived LSOAs for this domain.

Table 3-6: Domains of Deprivation for Kirklees 029D LSOA

IMD 2025 Domain	Rank (out of 33,755, 1 being the most deprived)	Decile
Overall IMD	2,398	10% most deprived
Income	3,649	20% most deprived
Employment	4,477	20% most deprived
Education & Training	3,985	20% most deprived
Health	1,765	10% most deprived
Crime	1,455	10% most deprived
Barriers to Housing and Services	9,639	30% most deprived
Living Environment	2,693	10% most deprived

Source: Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government

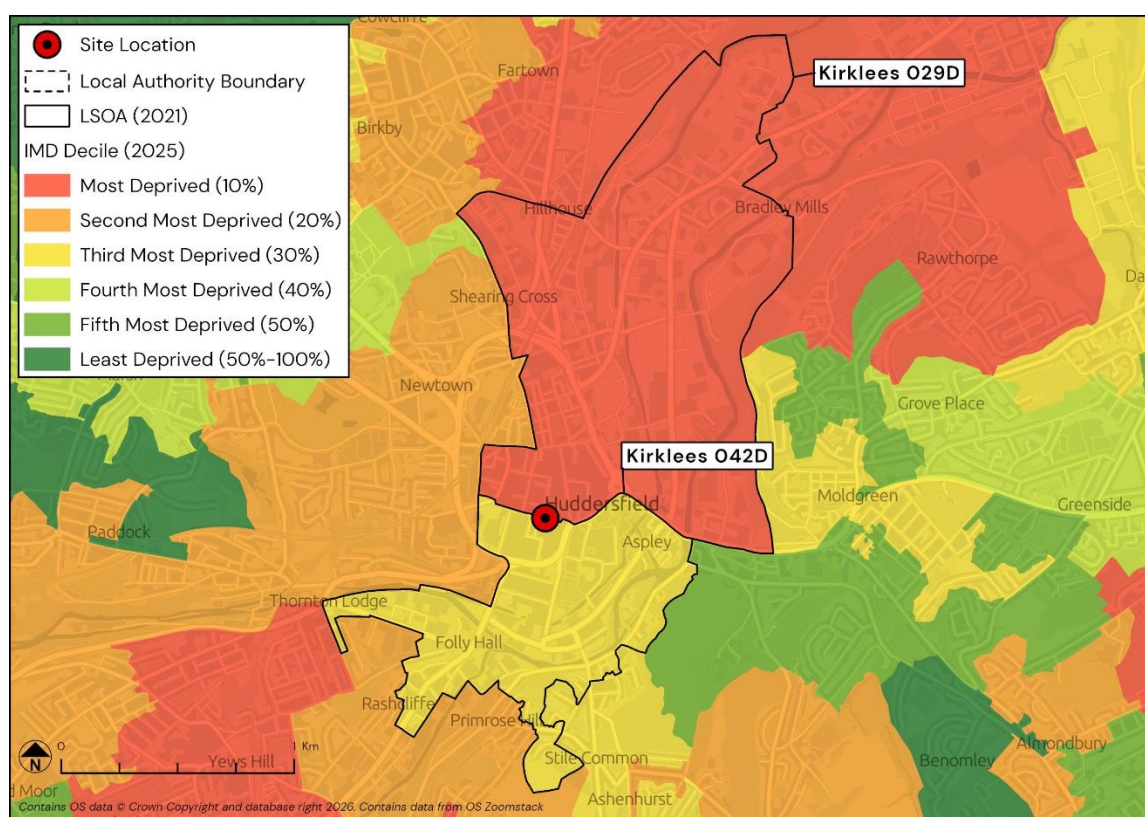
Table 3-7: Domains of Deprivation for Kirklees O42D LSOA

IMD 2025 Domain	Rank (out of 33,755, 1 being the most deprived)	Decile
Overall IMD	8,938	30% most deprived
Income	12,673	40% most deprived
Employment	12,329	40% most deprived
Education & Training	9,160	30% most deprived
Health	2,029	10% most deprived
Crime	12,128	40% most deprived
Barriers to Housing and Services	12,594	40% most deprived
Living Environment	11,144	40% most deprived

Source: Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government

- 3.15. Figure 3-3 shows the overall IMD rank for the site location, Kirklees O29D and Kirklees O42D. There are large areas of deprivation close to the site, with many of the LSOAs directly next to Kirklees O29D and O42D and within Huddersfield Town Centre fall into the top 10% and top 20% most deprived LSOAs in England. Further out from the town centre, the levels of deprivation decline, with some LSOAs falling into the top 50% least deprived LSOAs in England.

Figure 3-3: Index of Multiple Deprivation for Site Location

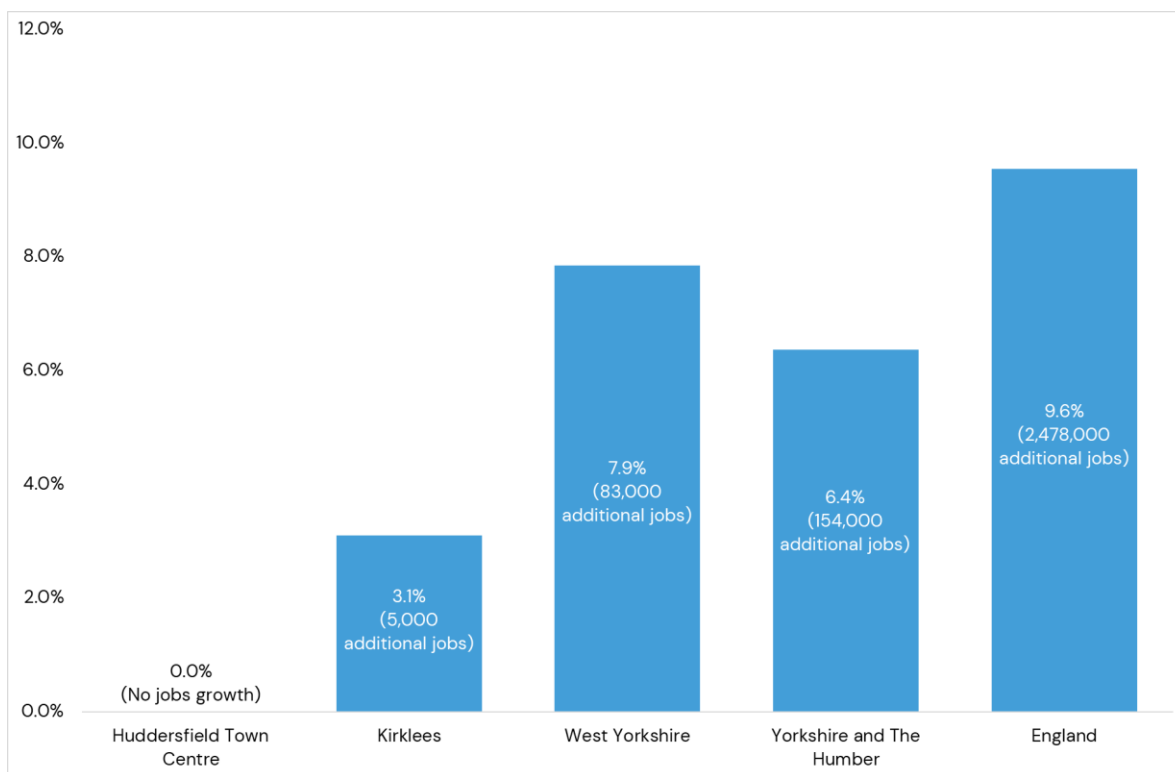


Source: Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government

Employment

- 3.16. Figure 3-4 presents the employment change in Huddersfield Town Centre, Kirklees, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Yorkshire and the Humber and England. Between 2015 and 2024, employment in Kirklees increased by 3.1%, a rise of 5,000 jobs. In the same timeframe in West Yorkshire, employment increased by 7.9%, an absolute increase of 83,000 jobs. This was above the employment growth in Yorkshire and the Humber (6.4%) and below the employment growth in England (9.6%). However, in the same timeframe, Huddersfield Twon Centre experienced no employment growth.
- 3.17. The sector most likely to benefit during the build phase of the Proposed Development is the construction sector which accounts for 5.4% of total employment in Kirklees and supported around 9,000 jobs in 2024.

Figure 3-4: Employment Change, 2015-24



Source: ONS, Business Register & Employment Survey

Business Base

- 3.18. [Table 3-8](#) presents the change in business numbers between 2015 and 2025. In Kirklees, 17,450 businesses are recorded as of 2025, compared to 15,800 in 2015. This is an increase of 1,650 which equates to a rise of 10.4%. This growth rate was above the rate seen in West Yorkshire Combined Authority (9.9%), Yorkshire and the Humber (8.3%) and England (10.1%).
- 3.19. Of these 17,450 businesses in Kirklees, 34.4% (5,995) are businesses in the retail, accommodation and food services and the arts, entertainment and recreation sectors which are the sectors most likely to be supported by the Proposed Development. Businesses in all sectors grew between 2015 and 2025, with an overall increase of 10.4% (1,650).

Table 3-8: Change in Business Numbers, 2015-2025

	2015	2025	Absolute Change	% Change
Kirklees	15,800	17,450	1,650	10.4%
West Yorkshire	85,405	93,820	8,415	9.9%
Yorkshire and The Humber	208,790	226,200	17,410	8.3%
England	2,489,825	2,741,405	251,580	10.1%

Source: ONS, UK Business Count

3.20. Of these 17,450 businesses around 84.3% are micro businesses (employing 0-9 people); 12.8% are small (10-49 employees); 2.7% are medium (50-249 employees); and only 0.3% are large (250+ employees). These figures are similarly aligned to the proportions in West Yorkshire, Yorkshire & The Humber, England. Table 3-9 presents business share by size data in more detail.

Table 3-9: Business Numbers by Size, 2025

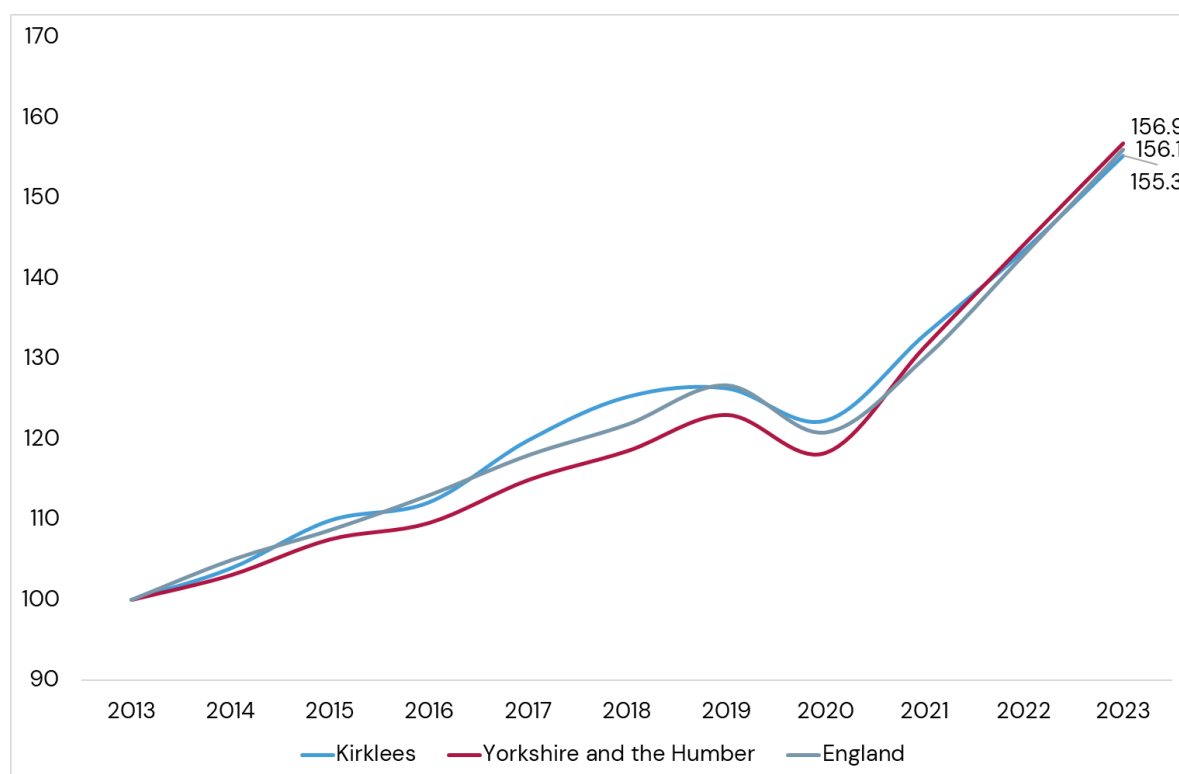
	Micro (0-9)	Small (10-49)	Medium-Sized (50-249)	Large (250+)
Kirklees	84.3%	12.8%	2.7%	0.3%
West Yorkshire	82.4%	13.9%	3.3%	0.5%
Yorkshire and the Humber	82.6%	14.0%	3.0%	0.4%
England	84.5%	12.4%	2.6%	0.4%

Source: ONS, UK Business Count

Economic Output

- 3.21. Figure 3-5 shows the GVA for Kirklees, Yorkshire & The Humber, and England between 2013 and 2023. In this time, GVA for Kirklees increased by 55.3% (approximate increase of £3.3bn). This was above the rate of increase in Yorkshire & The Humber (56.9%), and in England, which saw GVA rise by 56.1%. As of 2023, the GVA in the construction sector in Kirklees was £742 million. Between 2013 and 2023, this increased by 88.8%. This is an absolute increase of £349 million.

Figure 3-5: Gross Value Added at Current Basic Prices, 2013-2023



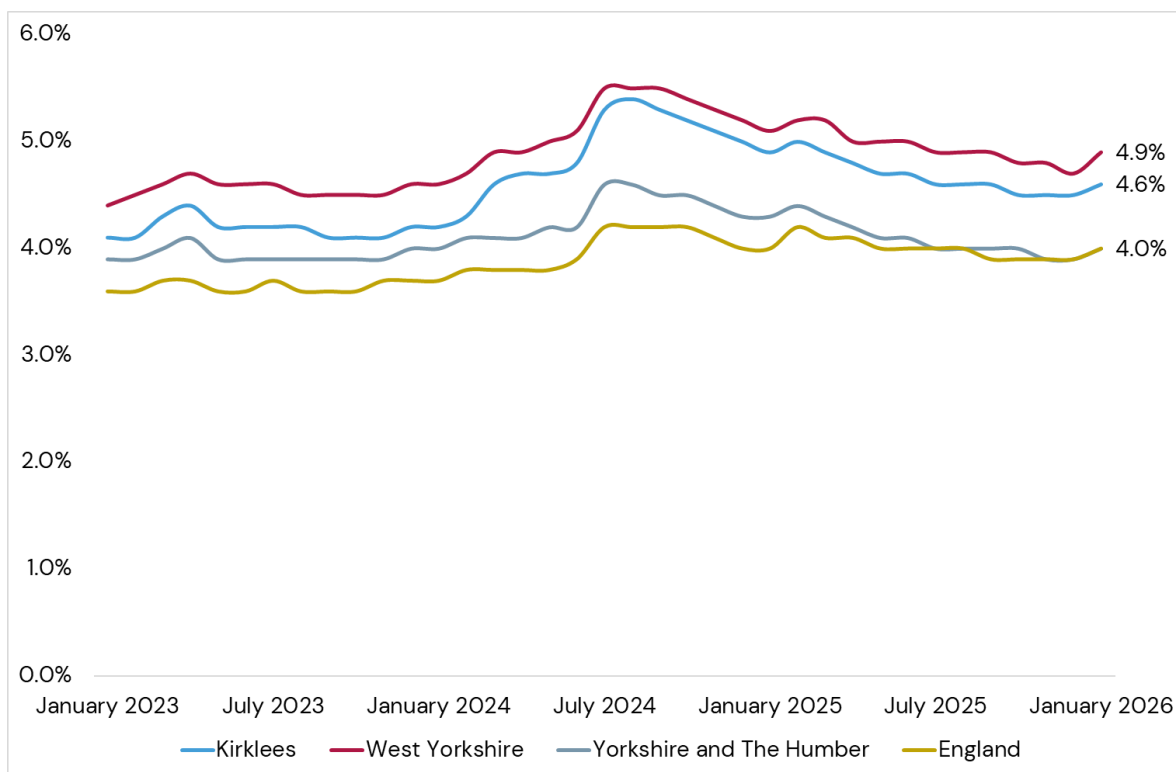
Source: Office for National Statistics

- 3.22. Using data produced by ONS, it is possible to calculate GVA per worker. In 2023 the GVA per worker in Kirklees was approximately £56,932. This figure is below the regional GVA per worker for Yorkshire and The Humber of £63,795 and below the GVA per worker across England of £74,869.

Unemployment

- 3.23. The claimant count gives the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work.
- 3.24. Figure 3-6 shows the claimant count as a proportion of those aged 16-64 in Kirklees, West Yorkshire, Yorkshire and The Humber and England for every month from January 2023 to January 2026.
- 3.25. In January 2026, the claimant count rate in Kirklees was 4.1% and by January 2026 it had risen to 4.6%. The claimant count rate in Kirklees is currently below the rate seen in West Yorkshire Combined Authority (4.9%), but above the rate in Yorkshire and the Humber (4.0%) and England (4.0%).

Figure 3-6: Claimant count as % of residents aged 16-64, January 2023-January 2026

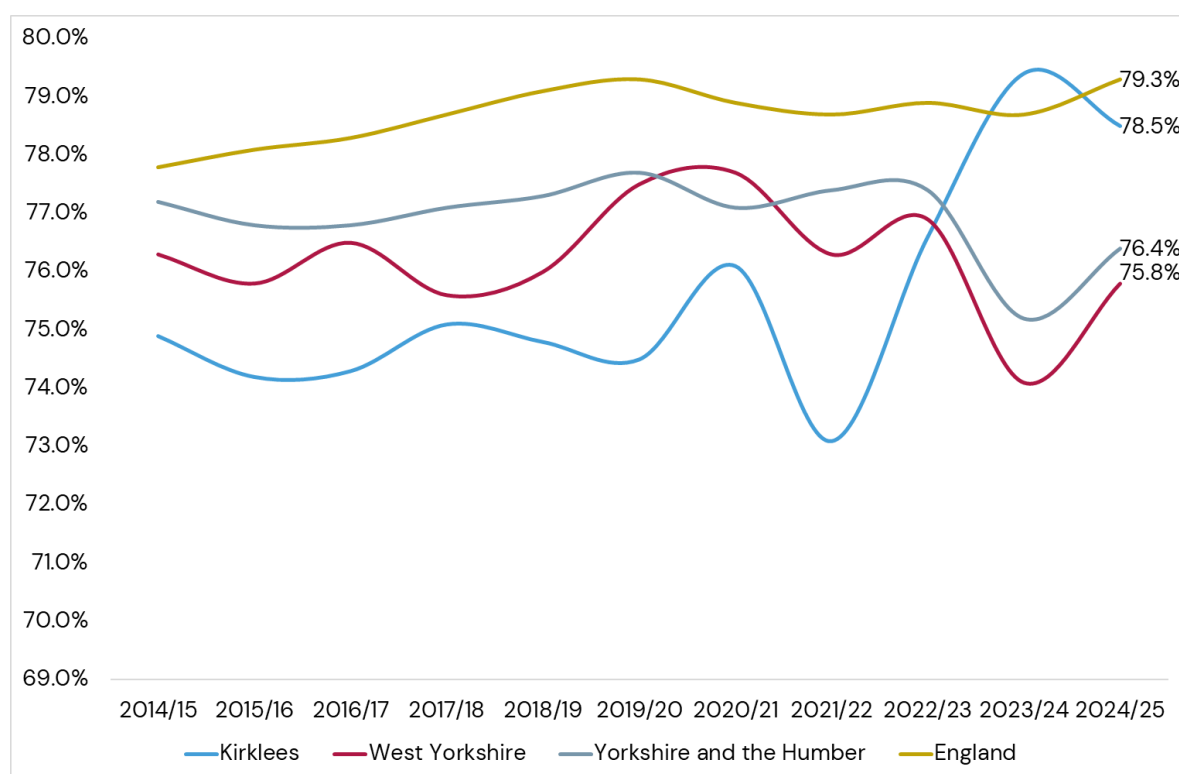


Source: ONS, Claimant Count

Economic Activity

- 3.26. Economic activity rates (the proportion of the working age population in or seeking work) have fluctuated over the past ten years, for Kirklees as of 2024/25 the rate is around 78.5%. This figure is below the rate in England (79.3%), but above the rates seen in West Yorkshire Combined Authority (75.8%) and Yorkshire and the Humber (76.4%). Figure 3-7 shows the data in more detail.

Figure 3-7: Economic Activity Rate (16-64), 2014/15-2024/25



Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey

Crime

- 3.27. Based on data from LG inform¹, the number of total recorded offences per 1,000 population in Q3 2025 was 89.99 in Kirklees. This rate was lower than the average rate across Yorkshire and The Humber (97.97).
- 3.28. The rate of victim-based crimes reported in Q3 2025 was 73.71 in Kirklees, which was below the average for Yorkshire and The Humber of 81.50. However, when looking at rates of violence against the person in Kirklees was above the average rate for Yorkshire and The Humber. In Kirklees the rate was 40.87 per 1,000, whilst for Yorkshire and The Humber this figure is 39.83 per 1,000.
- 3.29. It is noted that, as indicated under 'Deprivation', one of the LSOAs in which the Site is located is in the top 10% most deprived for crime in England. This indicates that overall, crime is an issue of note in Huddersfield Town Centre.

Health Overview

- 3.30. Overall, many of the health indicators in Kirklees are significantly worse when compared to averages for England². Life expectancy for males in Kirklees is 78.3, this compares to 78.5 in Yorkshire and the Humber and 79.8 in England. Life expectancy for females in Kirklees is 82.4, compared to 82.6 in Yorkshire and the Humber and 83.6 in England.
- 3.31. The under 75 mortality rate from all causes in Kirklees as of 2024 was 367.8 per 100,000. This is below the rate in Yorkshire and the Humber at 369.6, both of which are significantly above the rate in England at 329.4. This was similar for the under 75 mortality rate from

- 3.32. cardiovascular disease in Kirklees where the rate was 93.8 per 100,000. This compares to 87.2 in Yorkshire and the Humber and 74.3 in England.
- 3.33. In Kirklees, 67.7% of adults were classed as overweight or obese. This was above the rate seen in Yorkshire and the Humber (67.2%) and England (64.5%). In Kirklees 23.7% of children in year 6 were classified as obese, this is better than the rate in the Yorkshire and the Humber of 24.1%, but above the rate in England of 22.1%. At a ward level, data from Public Health England shows that in Newsome ward (within which the Proposed Development sits), 26.2% of year 6 children were classed as obese between 2022/23 and 2024/25³. This was the eighth highest rate of all the wards within Kirklees.
- 3.34. Data from the Office for National Statistics looks at annual personal well-being estimates⁴. The data presents results from a survey where respondents rank how satisfied they were with life on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 was not satisfied at all and 10 was completely satisfied.

1 Available at: https://lginform.local.gov.uk/reports/lgastandard?mod-metric=1071&mod-area=E08000034&mod-group=AllLalnRegion_YorkshireAndHumberside&mod-type=namedComparisonGroup&mod-period=1
Accessed: 08/08/2024.

2 Public Health Profile: Kirklees, 2021. Public Health England, 2021. Accessed 08/08/2024. Available at: <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data#page/1/gid/1938132696/pat/6/par/E12000003/ati/302/are/E08000034/yr/1/cid/4/tbm/1>

3 Obesity Profile: Kirklees 2022/23–2024/25. Accessed 17 February 2026. Available at: [Obesity, physical activity and nutrition – Data | Fingertips | Department of Health and Social Care](#)

4 Office for National Statistics: Annual Personal well-being estimates. Accessed 29/01/2024. Available here: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/datasets/headlineestimatesofpersonalwellbeing>.

Kirklees, the average rate for life satisfaction in 2022/23 was 7.27. This was below the average rate of 7.41 in Yorkshire and the Humber and the rate of 7.44 in the whole of England.

- 3.35. The same survey asks respondents how anxious they felt yesterday, where a rank of 0 is not anxious at all and a rank of 10 is completely anxious. The average rank for anxiety in Kirklees for 2022/23 was 3.48. This is above the average rank seen in Yorkshire and the Humber of 3.28 and the average seen in England of 3.24.

Huddersfield Town Centre Investment and Change

- 3.36. A research briefing from the House of Commons Library on Town Centre Regeneration¹ looks at the trends and challenges being faced by high streets and what can be done to support town centres. Before the Covid-19 pandemic, high streets were already facing challenges through changes in the retail industry, consumers shopping habits and spending power and the change in use of office space. These impacts were only accelerated by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 3.37. A report published by the Centre for Cities on the role of regeneration in levelling up² identified the importance of changing the nature of an area when improving the local economy, so that it offers something different to what it has done in the past. The Proposed Development will deliver a mix of culture and leisure facilities alongside retail and food and drink to create a diverse mix of amenities and bring new facilities to the town centre.
- 3.38. Research from What Works Centre for Economic Growth³ looked at how investment and interventions can be effective in promoting economic growth on high streets and in town centres. Improving high streets and town centres was already a priority before the Covid-19 pandemic, however, the challenges from the pandemic such as a shift towards online shopping and an increase in the number of people working from home exacerbated the problems that towns centres were already facing.
- 3.39. One of the points found in the research is the need for an increase in demand to meet supply-side intervention to ensure that there is a sustained improvement in the high street or town centre. As outlined above, between 2014 and 2024 there has been an increase in the population in Kirklees (4.4%) which could be considered a latent demand for the Proposed Development, not least the increase in population of working age (16 to 64 years). The working age population would be expected to have disposable income which could be spent at the Proposed Development once it is operational.
- 3.40. Further research by the High Streets Task Force⁴ identified that traditional shopping activities are no longer the primary driver of visits to town centres, with evening and leisure activities now just as likely to attract visitors. The 2023 Review of High Street Footfall in England highlights key post-Covid themes, including that footfall has increased by 3.5% between 2022 and 2023, but remains 9% below expected pre-pandemic levels. In addition to this, a 2% increase in the evening economy means that footfall at 7pm now matches levels typically seen at 9am. The report suggests that 2023 may signal the end of retail as the dominant function of high streets. Within this context, Kirklees Cultural Heart is considered a fundamental component in positioning Huddersfield Town Centre as a multifunctional town, as opposed to a retail town.

¹ *Town Centre Regeneration*: House of Commons Library, December 2021.

² *Making Places*: The role of regeneration in levelling up. Centre for Cities, October 2022.

³ *Evidence Briefing: local growth, high street and town centres*: What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth, March 2021.

⁴ 2023 Review of High Street Footfall in England, High Streets Task Force, 2023. Accessed 16/02/26. Access here: [footfall-report-2023-combined-1.pdf](#)

- 3.41. Although in general there has been a fall in footfall on high streets, especially in bigger cities, district and neighbourhood centres haven't been as badly affected. The report found that smaller places tend to have recovered rather better than the larger urban areas, particularly the districts. This trend, which was also detected during the pandemic, is likely to be the result of changes in working practices with substantial numbers of people still working from home at least part of the week, visiting their local centres for their supplies, instead of large town and city centres where most offices are based. Therefore, schemes such as Kirklees Cultural Heart would benefit from more support through national, regional and local policy to ensure they are attracting local people through providing a diverse range of services and ensuring high footfall.

Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

- 3.42. As noted in the Assessment Approach section, the update of assessment of likely significant effects is presented in relation to scenario (2) Preferred Way Forward (PWF) only.

Demolition and Construction

Employment

- 3.43. The construction cost for the Proposed Development is still estimated at £146.4million and the construction phase could extend up to 2031. As such, there is no change to the significance of effect in terms of employment during the construction phase as a result of the scheme compared Section 6 of the Appendix. It remains as **major beneficial** which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Economic Output

- 3.44. As outlined, the construction phase of the Proposed Development could extend up to 2031. This will change the significance of the effect in terms of economic output to **moderate beneficial**, however, this is still **significant** in EIA terms.

Amenity Impact

- 3.45. The amenity impact from the construction phase of the Proposed Development remains unchanged from Section 6 of the Appendix. As such, the amenity impact of the construction phase of the Proposed Development remains as **minor to moderate adverse** which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Operation

Employment

- 3.46. It is assumed that the Proposed Development will still support 459 gross full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs once it is operational. As such, there is no change to the significance of effect in terms of employment during the operational phase as a result of the scheme compared to Section 6 of the Appendix. It remains as:

Minor beneficial which is **not significant** in EIA terms in Kirklees.

Moderate beneficial which is **significant** in EIA terms in Huddersfield Town Centre.

Mitigation, Enhancements and Residual Effects

- 3.47. In line with Section 6 of the Appendix, there are no mitigation or enhancement measures specific to socio-economic and health. Residual effects remain unchanged from those impacts identified above.

Cumulative Effects

- 3.48. There are no changes to the cumulative assessment from that presented in Section 6 of the Appendix.

Summary

- 3.49. Overall, there will be no change to the significance of impact from a socio-economic perspective with all impacts assessed to be the same as Section 6 of the Appendix. The Proposed Development is still assessed as having a positive socio-economic impact of Huddersfield Town Centre and the wider Kirklees local authority.

4. Cultural Heritage

Introduction

- 4.1. This chapter considers the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development on cultural heritage receptors. It includes a consideration of buildings / structures that form the built historic environment and below-ground archaeology.
- 4.2. This chapter has been prepared by Simon Britt, IHBC MRTPI, Associate Built Heritage Consultant and Laura Garcia MCIfA, Senior Director of Heritage at Pegasus Group. Both have extensive experience in the preparation of ES Chapters.

Assessment Approach

- 4.3. This chapter is supported by the following reports:
- **Appendix 4.1:** Built Heritage Impact Assessment & Setting Assessment (Pegasus Group – March 2026).
 - **Appendix 4.2:** Desk-based Archaeological Assessment– Section 73 application (Pegasus Group – March 2026).
 - Heritage Statement: Volume 4 – Library and Art Gallery: Assessment of Significance (prepared by Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios – March 2022).
 - Heritage Statement: Volume 6 – Heritage Impact Assessment (prepared by Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios– September 2022).

Methodology

- 4.4. This Chapter has been undertaken in accordance with national legislation and guidance and national and local planning policy. The full text of each of the policies referred to below can be found in the Built Heritage Impact Assessment & Setting Assessment (Pegasus Group, March 2026) – Appendix 4.1. The list of legislation, policies and guidance is set out below:

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 – Section 66(1).

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), 2024) – Chapter 16;

Kirklees Local Plan Strategy and Policies (adopted 27th February 2019) – policies LP17 and LP35.

National Planning Practice Guidance (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG);

Historic England, 2015. Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2;

Historic England, 2017, Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (Second Edition): The Setting of Heritage Assets.;

Historic England 2019. Statement of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in

Heritage Assets Historic England Advice Note 12; and

- 4.5. Historic England's Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment (published by English Heritage in 2008).

Value of receptors (the significance of a Heritage Asset)

- 4.6. Heritage Assets are defined in the NPPF as:
- 4.7. *"A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including Local Listing)."*
- 4.8. The value of heritage assets is defined as the 'Significance of Heritage Assets' and is defined in the NPPF as:
- 4.9. *"The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance."*
- 4.10. Historic England's Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 (hereafter GPA 2); Historic England 2019. Statement of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets Historic England Advice Note 12 and the National Planning Guidance which advocate describing the significance of Heritage Assets in terms of four interests. These interests are described as follows:

Archaeological interest: "As defined in the Glossary to the National Planning Policy Framework, there will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point."

Architectural and artistic interest: "These are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types. Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skills, like sculpture."

Historic interest: "An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history but can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity."

- 4.11. In accordance with the levels of significance articulated in the NPPF, three levels of significance are identified:

Designated heritage assets of the highest significance, as identified in paragraph 213 of the NPPF comprising Grade I and II* Listed buildings, Grade I and II* Registered Parks

and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, World Heritage Sites and Registered Battlefields (and also including some Conservation Areas) and non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to Scheduled Monuments, as identified in footnote 75 of the NPPF;

Designated heritage assets of less than the highest significance, as identified in paragraph 213 of the NPPF, comprising Grade II Listed buildings and Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens; and

Non-designated heritage assets. Non-designated heritage assets are defined within the Government's Planning Practice Guidance as *"buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated heritage assets"*.

4.12. Additionally, it is of course possible that sites, buildings, or areas have no heritage significance, values are thereby articulated from having a negligible value to high value.

4.13. The value (significance) of receptors and descriptions are presented in [Receptor Value \(importance\) and Sensitivity \(Table 4-1\)](#).

Table 4-1: Receptor Value (importance) and Sensitivity.

Value	Description
High	Standing structures included within World Heritage Sites. Scheduled Monuments. Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings. Grade I and Grade II*Registered Parks and Gardens. Registered Battlefields. Non-Designated Heritage Assets of archaeological interest which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments.
Medium	Grade II Listed Buildings. Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens. Conservation areas. Non-Designated Heritage Assets, Sites, and features noted as nationally or regionally important in the Historic Environment Record.
Low	Locally listed buildings. Non-Designated Heritage Assets, Sites, and features noted as locally important in the Historic Environment Record.
Negligible	Archaeological features buildings of little or no value at local or other scale.

4.14. The setting of a Heritage Asset can also contribute to its significance, as defined in the NPPF:

“Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also from its setting.”

4.15. Setting is defined as:

“The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.”

4.16. Therefore, setting can contribute to, affect an appreciation of significance or be neutral with regards to heritage values.

4.17. How setting might contribute to these interests has been assessed with reference to Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 (Second Edition): The Setting of Heritage Assets (GPA 3). This advocates the clear articulation of ‘what matters and why’.

4.18. In GPA 3 a stepped approach is recommended, of which:

Step 1 is to identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected.

Step 2 is to assess “whether, how and to what degree settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciate”. The guidance includes a (non-exhaustive) check-list of elements of the physical surroundings of an asset that might be considered when undertaking the assessment including, among other things: topography, other heritage assets, green space, functional relationships and degree of change over time. It also lists points associated with the experience of the asset which might be considered, including views, intentional intervisibility, tranquillity, sense of enclosure, land use, accessibility and rarity.

Step 3 is to assess the effect of the proposed development on the significance of the asset(s).

Step 4 is to explore ways to “maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm”.

Step 5 is to “make and document the decision and monitor outcomes”.

- 4.19. Descriptions of significance will naturally anticipate the ways in which impacts will be considered. Hence descriptions of the significance of Listed Buildings will be discussed with reference to the building, its setting and any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

Magnitude of Impact

- 4.20. The magnitude of impact is defined by the extent of change to a receptor (heritage asset) or its setting. The magnitude of impact is described in [Table 4-2](#).

Table 4-2: Magnitude of Impact.

Magnitude of Impact	Description
Major	Change such that the significance of the receptor (heritage asset) is totally altered or destroyed . Comprehensive change to setting affecting significance, resulting in substantial changes in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its historical setting.
Moderate	Change such that the significance of the receptor (heritage asset) is affected. Changes such that the setting is noticeably different , affecting significance resulting in moderate changes to significance and in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource.
Minor	Change such that the significance of the receptor (heritage asset) is slightly affected . Changes to the setting that have a slight impact on significance resulting in changes in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource.
Negligible	Changes to the receptor (heritage asset) that hardly affect significance. Changes to the setting of an asset that have little effect on significance and no real change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource.
No Change	The development results in no change or such a negligible level of change that it does not affect the significance of the receptor (heritage asset). Changes to the setting do not affect the significance of the asset or our appreciation of it.

Nature of Effect

- 4.21. In addition to determining the magnitude of the impact the assessment process also includes a qualitative description regarding the nature of the effect. These terms add additional information about how the effect would affect a receptor (Heritage Assets) and are set out in [Table 4-3](#)

Table 4-3: Assessment Descriptors

Term	Nature of Effect Descriptors
Adverse	An effect which has the potential to decrease a Heritage Asset value or status relative to baseline conditions.
Beneficial	An effect which has the potential to increase a Heritage Asset value or status relative to baseline conditions.
Short-term	Effects that persist only for a short time, e.g., during the construction (or decommissioning) phase only; includes reversible effects.
Medium-term	Effects that may persist until additional mitigation measures have been implemented and become effective.
Long-term	Effects that persist for a much longer time, e.g., for the duration of the operational phase (essentially until the development ceases or is removed/ reinstated); includes effects which are permanent (irreversible) or which may decline over longer timescales.
Temporary	A reversible effect where recovery is possible.
Frequent	Refers to a recurring effect that occurs repeatedly; in some cases a lower level of impact may occur with sufficient frequency to reduce the ability of a Heritage Asset to recover effectively.

Determination of Residual Effect

- 4.22. The determination of the magnitude of effect has been assessed with regard to the extent to which embedded mitigation and enhancement measures will reduce or reverse negative effects or enhance positive effects, to determine the residual effect.
- 4.23. The assessment of the predicted effects of the Proposed Development on the heritage assets (receptors) is undertaken by assessing the magnitude of the impact of the proposal against the Receptor Sensitivity (i.e., the significance of the Heritage Asset). These effects can be adverse or beneficial.
- 4.24. The methodology matrix for assessment is presented in [Table 4-4](#). It is considered in the professional judgement of Pegasus Group that a Very Large effect would be considered significant in EIA terms. Effects of Large or Moderate a may be considered significant or not significant. The distinction is made by applying professional judgement to this matrix-led process allowing a true reflection of the effect to be considered, rather than a level of effect which has been artificially inflated due to the constraints of the EIA process.

Table 4-4: Significance of Effect Matrix

Receptor Sensitivity (Heritage Asset Value)	Magnitude of impact				
	No change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
High	Neutral	Slight	Slight or Moderate	Moderate or Large	Large or Very large
Medium	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate or large
Low	Neutral	Neutral or slight	Neutral or slight	Slight	Slight or moderate
Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight

Limitations of the Assessment

- 4.25. The conclusions presented within this chapter are based upon the baseline conditions which are set out in full in Appendix 4.1 – Built Heritage Impact Assessment & Setting Assessment (Pegasus Group, March 2026) and Appendix 4.2 the Desk Based Archaeological Assessment (Pegasus Group, March 2026). A summary is presented below. These baseline conditions have been established in large part from the data held and supplied by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS) Historic Environment Record (HER). In establishing the baseline conditions, for the purposes of this chapter, both the accuracy and currency of this data has necessarily been assumed.
- 4.26. In relation to settings assessment, inspection of heritage assets within the Application Site environs that were identified as potentially susceptible to non-physical impact was undertaken from publicly accessible locations. No privately held land or property was accessed, other than those in Kirklees Council's control.

Baseline Conditions

Site Description and Context

- 4.27. The planning application site is located north and west of the A62 – Queensgate, within Huddersfield Town Centre and covers an area of approximately c1.1ha and comprises the Grade II Listed Library and Art Gallery and its immediate surrounds. The Library and Art Gallery is the focus of this Section 73 application.
- 4.28. The site is within the setting of the Grade II Queensgate Market.

Baseline Survey Information

- 4.29. Study area – A 250m study area from the application site boundary was used to identify any heritage assets (receptors). A 250m radius was considered suitable due to the urban environment in which the site is located and the limited ability for any assets to be affected by the proposals beyond this area. A professional judgement was made on site whether any asset beyond this radius warranted assessment.
- 4.30. Data sources: The following key sources were consulted as part of the assessment process:
- The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) for information relating to designated heritage assets;
- The West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYASS) Historic Environment Record (HER) for information relating to recorded built heritage assets;
- Historic maps held by the West Yorkshire Archive Service, those available online from The Genealogist and Promap websites;
- Previous published and grey literature reports relating to the development and town planning of the Application Site and environs; and
- Historical photographs held by the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service, and historic satellite imagery available on Google Earth.

- 4.31. Data processing and analysis: A proportionate level of data, sufficient to inform the assessment of significance, and potential impact, has been acquired from the sources listed above.
- 4.32. All data has been reconciled and analysed in accordance with the relevant industry guidance and best practice, and consistent with the objectives of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).
- 4.33. All digital spatial data has been interrogated using industry-standard Geographical Information System (GIS) software.
- 4.34. Historic Environment Record (HER) data: The results of a full commercial data search were received from WYAAS HER in August 2022.
- 4.35. All of the HER data supplied was reconciled and analysed within the context of the project aims and objectives.
- 4.36. The HER data returned contained numerous records of varying reliability and relevance. Only those sites and events relevant to the assessment of archaeological potential, significance and impact are discussed further within this chapter.
- 4.37. Application Site inspection: A walkover survey of the Application Site was undertaken several times since July 2021 in order to;
- 4.38. assess the Application Site within its wider townscape context,
- 4.39. assess the receptors (heritage assets) within the Application Site with consideration of direct and indirect (via setting) impacts to them.
- 4.40. assess the receptors (heritage assets) within the study area with consideration of direct and indirect (via setting) impacts to them.
- 4.41. The Historic Environment: A discussion of the historic environment and history of the application site area subject of the Section 73 application and surrounds can be found in the and Heritage Impact Assessment and Setting Assessment, and the Desk-Based Archaeology Assessment at **Appendix 4.1** and **Appendix 4.2**.

Receptors (Heritage Assets)

- 4.42. The Application Site is not within a Conservation Area, or World Heritage Site and is not a Scheduled Monument but does contain one identified Receptor (Designated Heritage Assets), this is:

Grade II Listed Building –Library and Art Gallery.

Potential Receptors within 250m of the boundary of Application Site include

156 Listed Buildings

1 Conservation Area

- 4.43. The heritage assets which could be susceptible to direct and indirect effects as a result of the Proposed Development as part of the Section 73 application, and assessed are shown in [Table 4-5](#)

Table 4-5: Receptors (Heritage Assets) susceptible to direct or indirect effects of the Proposed Development.

Receptor (Heritage Asset)	Receptor Type	Grade	Receptor Value
Huddersfield Library and Art Gallery	Listed Building	II	Medium
Queensgate Market	Listed Building	II	Medium

- 4.44. With regard to the remaining Receptors (heritage assets) in the vicinity of the application site, assessment has concluded that the site does not form any part of setting that positively contributes to overall heritage significance due to the nature of the receptor and a lack of visual connections, spatial relationships or historic connections. Accordingly, the proposed development is not anticipated to result in a change that would have an effect upon the overall heritage significance of these receptors. Therefore, these remaining receptors (heritage assets) have been excluded from further assessment within this chapter. Only those receptors listed above have been considered to have the potential to experience effects and therefore are included in this ES Chapter.
- 4.45. With regards to below-ground archaeology, the WYHER did not identify any below-ground archaeological assets within the footprint of the application site.
- 4.46. The site area subject of the Section 73 application is south of the medieval and post-medieval core and is not likely to have seen much if any activity prior to this. Indeed, the area where the Ramsden Street Congregational Church was constructed was known as a favourite haunt for mushroom gatherers. As such, the potential for archaeology of these periods within the site boundary is low. As described above, the first mapped development of the site occurred in the 19th century and the Goad Fire Insurance Plan of 1887 shows that the whole site was occupied by buildings. The initial construction of these buildings would have caused below-ground disturbance within the area, though as stated the potential for any earlier deposits here is low.
- 4.47. The 1887 Goad Fire Insurance Plan provides an extremely high level of detail regarding the buildings and layout within the site in the late 19th century. The Goad plans provide information on the building material, the roof material, the height of the building, whether basements were present, the function, the type of walls, the number of windows, skylights and many additional features. For the site, the Goad Plan shows that the majority of the buildings were brick with tile roofs. Buildings were between 2 and 3 storeys and a mix of residential, commercial and civic.
- 4.48. The plan indicates that none of the buildings within the site boundary had a basement and therefore there may not have been excessively deep disturbance in this phase of construction of buildings within the site, however this also means that when the buildings were demolished in the mid-20th century for the Murrayfield redevelopment, this makes it far more

likely that the foundations were removed, rather than as is sometimes seen, the demolition rubble is pushed into the basement void and capped over for the new construction above, as demonstrated by other fieldwork events within Huddersfield centre .

- 4.49. The application site has undergone three major changes within the past two centuries. The first major change was the initial development of the site in the early 19th century when the city of Huddersfield was rapidly expanding beyond its medieval and post-medieval core to the north of the site and with the construction of the Congregational Church and shops, houses and pubs to its north. The application site was transformed within a century from an outlying rural area around the settlement to being firmly within the footprint of the town.
- 4.50. The second major change was when the Congregational Church was demolished and replaced by the Library and Art Gallery in the 1930s.
- 4.51. The third major change was when the surrounding area of the Library and Art Gallery was chosen as the location for a major city centre redevelopment when the Murrayfield Development Company approached the Huddersfield Corporation with ideas of renewing this area. The implementation of the Murrayfield development required the demolition of all of the buildings to the north of the Library and Art Gallery, including those that were within part of the application site subject of the Section 73 application, and those within the wider surrounds. The grid of former streets that surrounded the site was obliterated and extensively re-graded to allow the construction of the new buildings, including the piazza and Queensgate Market. The changes in levels can be seen in comparison photographs of the Church and the Library, and with the current retaining wall and service tunnel access.
- 4.52. An area of archaeological potential was highlighted by the LPA Archaeologist, in the area around the former Ramsden Street Congregational Church. This was a non-conformist chapel with no indication of burial grounds on any mapping of the area throughout its lifetime. The church began construction in 1824 and opened in 1825. The church was large, grand and set within the expanding centre of Huddersfield. The church was closed in 1933 and purchased with the view for demolition by the Huddersfield Corporation and the demolition began in 1936. There are no records of any burial ground in the grounds of this church. Analysis of historic mapping and historic photographs of the church do not provide any indications of burials in the grounds of the church. There is no record of interments within the church itself, though it is probable that if there were burials within the church, these would have been removed prior to demolition. However, any burials are unlikely to have been located within the application site or have survived the extent of excavation undertaken during the construction of Murrayfield development.
- 4.53. However, during the preparation of assessments to support the previously approved planning application, ground investigations were undertaken across the site to establish ground conditions. As part of this, ground investigations were undertaken in the vicinity of the Art Gallery and Library, the former site of the Ramsden Street Congregational Church. The LPA Archaeologist identified the potential for potentially unrecorded burials to be located in the vicinity of this former church and requested that the ground investigation test pits, boreholes or observation pits be monitored by an archaeologist to record any archaeological deposits or human remains which may be exposed. CFA Archaeology who undertook the monitoring works indicated that no human remains have been encountered and nothing of archaeological interest was identified in any of the test pits. It is assumed therefore that no archaeological deposits or made ground of interest was identified during these works.
- 4.54. The results of this monitoring, coupled with the mapping evidence which shows the entire redevelopment of the area surrounding the Library and Art Gallery in the mid-20th century including an extensive network of service tunnels, is likely to have removed any archaeological deposits of significance within the site and surrounds.

- 4.55. As noted, there is very low potential for archaeology from any period prior to the 19th century and the footprint of those buildings first constructed at the site are likely to have been removed and obscured through the wholesale demolition, clearance, and redevelopment of the site.
- 4.56. Furthermore, the Goad Fire Insurance Plan of 1887 indicates that the buildings on this site in the late 19th century were a mix of residential, commercial and civic buildings (Sunday School). None of these buildings are particularly significant in terms of their function or type and none contained basements which might have survived later demolition and infill.
- 4.57. It is therefore concluded that there is a low potential for archaeology generally within the surrounding area and within the application site.

Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

Construction (Archaeology)

- 4.58. Construction impacts are likely to arise from a variety of actions across the site. This includes the demolition of elements of the Library and Art Gallery, the remediation and any required ground- levelling, piling and the formation of foundations for the new extension and landscaping.
- 4.59. It is considered that the construction phase of this scheme could only impact below ground remains of 19th century buildings, but for reasons stated above the potential for this is low and the significance of any remains would be negligible. The WYHER has not identified any records of archaeological activity within the proposed site boundary and the archaeological watching brief on an area of the site with some archaeological potential for human burials near to the location of the former Ramsden Street Congregational Church, did not identify any archaeological deposits. Analysis of historic mapping has shown that there has been significant disturbance within the proposed site boundary with the demolition of all of the buildings shown in detail on the 1887 Goad Fire Insurance Plan of the area, and the total redevelopment of the surrounds of the Library and Art Gallery during the 1960s, with the creation of a network of tunnels beneath the ground surface and changes to the ground levels.
- 4.60. The construction phase of the proposed development will result in a direct and long term impact upon any below ground archaeology, any impact would likely be adverse but to archaeology of negligible value. A long term but **neutral effect** is therefore reported.

Operation (Archaeology)

- 4.61. The operation of the proposed scheme from day one will not result in any impact on archaeological deposits. The impact will be **no change**. The effect will be thereby **neutral**.

Construction (Bult Heritage)

- 4.62. **Receptor –Grade II Listed Library and Art Gallery:** Construction impacts are likely to arise from a variety of actions across the site. This includes site clearance and the demolition of parts of the Library and Art Gallery; movement and presence of associated construction vehicles and plant; presence of construction compounds; site offices and welfare facilities; presence of mobile or truck/track mounted cranes for construction of the proposed extensions; earthworks and construction associated with the formation of development platform, foundations, drainage; and public realm improvements.
- 4.63. The construction phase of the proposed development will result in some indirect impact to this receptor from structures, such as those referred to above, being temporarily erected within the setting. In general, such structures will be placed and designed for their practical

function and purpose and not considering the heritage significance of the receptors and their settings. Motion of vehicles, cranes, deliveries, and noise of construction will change the setting and affect the ability of the receptors to be seen and how they are experienced for a temporary period. The impact is temporary and would be removed on completion of the project or relevant phase and as such be reversible.

- 4.64. The construction phase of the proposed development will also result in some direct impact resulting from the removal of parts of the Library and Art Gallery. Direct impact is likely to arise from the use of scaffolding and propping and enclosing of spaces whilst works of demolition and removal of fabric are undertaken. The impact would be temporary and a necessary element of construction, with the impact being removed on completion of the project or relevant phase and as such be reversible.
- 4.65. The construction phase of the proposed development will result in both direct and indirect moderate impact to the significance of the Grade II Library and Art Gallery, a receptor of medium value. A temporary **moderate adverse effect** is therefore reported.
- 4.66. **Receptor–Grade II Listed Queensgate Market:** There will be **no direct** construction impacts to Queensgate Market, impacts would only be from the change within its setting arising from noise of construction, scaffolding, construction compounds, and delivery of materials and vehicular movements, which could affect how the market is experienced within its setting.
- 4.67. The construction phase of the proposed development will result in an indirect minor impact to the significance of the Grade II Queensgate Market, a receptor of medium value. A temporary **slight adverse** effect is therefore reported.

Operation (Built Heritage)

- 4.68. **Receptor – Grade II Listed Huddersfield Library and Art Gallery:** The proposals, including the extension will secure a long-term viable use for the building, including the Art Gallery which the building was designed to be in part; they will secure repairs and restoration to aid its long-term preservation; they will provide a public building with improved accessibility for users to enjoy; and the building will be more energy efficient and thereby contribute to tackling climate change. These will be direct and long-term beneficial effects.
- 4.69. The setting and surrounds of the Library and Art Gallery have changed and evolved with the majority of the immediate and wider setting of the Library and Art Gallery making no contribution to its heritage significance. The proposed outdoor classroom and other public realm works will better connect the building with its surrounds and will be an indirect and long-term beneficial effects.
- 4.70. Overall, the proposed development will result in a direct and indirect moderate impact to the significance of the Grade II Listed Library and Art Gallery, a receptor of Medium Value, during the operation phase. A **moderate beneficial effect** is therefore reported.
- 4.71. **Receptor–Grade II Listed Queensgate Market:** Operation impacts will not directly affect Queensgate Market, any effect will be via the proposed changes within its setting. The immediate and wider surrounds of Queensgate Market is largely a product of the comprehensive Murrayfield redevelopment undertaken between 1969 and 1974, of which the Market Hall was formed as part of the second phase, but also includes the 1930s Library and Art Gallery. The setting has remained broadly unchanged since, other than for alterations to the Piazza complex with shop front extensions, canopies and changes to elements of the public realm, but it still comprises a pedestrianised retail precinct punctuated by open hard landscaping with green space to its north and west.
- 4.72. The main element of the proposed development that has potential to affect the building from

a change to its setting comprises the repair works and alterations to the south entrance to the Library and Art Gallery and the external public realm work including the proposed outdoor classroom.

- 4.73. The proposed works will enhance the surrounds of the Queensgate Market and are part of the wider Our Cultural Heart development which the Market is also part of. The proposals will be a long-term and beneficial change to its setting.
- 4.74. Overall, the proposed development will result in an indirect moderate impact to the significance of the Grade II Listed Queensgate Market, a receptor of Medium Value, during the operation phase, via a change in setting. A **moderate beneficial** effect is therefore reported.

Mitigation and Residual Effects

Mitigation by Design

- 4.75. The proposed design has recognised the heritage significance of the heritage assets (receptors) and their settings and thereby the most harmful effects have already been mitigated through this iterative process.

Residual Effects

- 4.76. The residual effects described in this ES chapter range from neutral; moderate adverse; slight adverse; and slight beneficial. **No significant effect** in EIA terms is reported.
- 4.77. Whilst the terminology of the EIA does not necessarily relate or easily transfer to consideration of harm in the context of the NPPF it is considered that a neutral effect is no harm, and thereby preserves the heritage asset. A slight beneficial effect is also no harm and might be an enhancement and public benefit. A slight or moderate adverse impact is considered to be harmful, but less than substantial.

Cumulative Effects

- 4.78. No cumulative effects arising from the proposed development are identified.

Summary

- 4.79. This chapter has considered the potential effects on built heritage assets and archaeology arising from the proposed development.
- 4.80. None of the identified effects are considered to be significant effects in EIA terms.
- 4.81. The effect of the development on archaeology would be neutral.
- 4.82. In the terminology of the NPPF, it is considered that the effect of the proposals would not result in a level of harm which is considered to be substantial harm.
- 4.83. There will be a direct impact on the Library and Art Gallery, which would be Less than Substantial harm.
- 4.84. The effects arising from development within the setting of the Listed Library and Art Gallery and Queensgate Market would be beneficial enhancement.
- 4.85. [Table 4-6](#) provides a summary of effects, mitigation (where applicable) and residual effects with regard to the assets discussed in this ES Chapter.



Table 4-6: Summary of effects, mitigation, and residual effects with regards to the receptors (assets) discussed in this ES chapter.

ARCHAEOLOGY					
Receptor (Heritage Asset)	Nature of Effect	Receptor Value	Magnitude of Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Effect (Significant Effect / Not Significant in EIA Terms)
Construction					
Archaeological deposits within the site footprint	Long term – adverse effect	Negligible	Negligible	None proposed	Neutral (Not Significant)
Operation					
Archaeological deposits within the site footprint	n/a – no effects would arise from the operation of the development	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**BUILT HERITAGE**

Receptor (Heritage Asset	Nature of Effect	Receptor Value	Magnitude of Impact	Mitigation Measures	Residual Effect (Significant Effect / Not Significant in EIA Terms)
Construction					
Huddersfield Library and Art Gallery	Temporary Adverse	Medium	Moderate	None proposed.	Moderate Adverse Effect (Not Significant)
Queensgate Market	Temporary Adverse	Medium	Minor	None proposed.	Slight Adverse Effect (Not Significant)
Operation					
Huddersfield Library and Art Gallery	Long term Beneficial	Medium	Moderate	None	Moderate Beneficial Effect (Not Significant)



Queensgate Market	Long term Beneficial	Medium	Moderate	None	Moderate Beneficial Effect (Not Significant)
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5. Transport and Air Quality

- 5.1. The potential for effects on other matters including Transport and Air Quality were considered in Chapters 8 and 9 of the Environmental Statement.

Transport

- 5.2. The Transport ES chapter assesses the impact of the proposed development on the local transport network. It considers the potential effects of the transport impacts in an environmental context.
- 5.3. The following provides an assessment of the effects against the baseline, including the continued consideration (as being presently retained as part of the overall scheme) of the approved but not yet constructed standalone public gallery building and its Class F1 use, along with the venue/MSCP.
- 5.4. The changes to the Proposed Development will not result in any change of use from that already consented on the site and shall decrease the gross external floor area from 6,617sqm to 6,308sqm. As was set out within the original ES and its addendum, trips were assessed to be largely linked between the Class F1 museum and the approved standalone public gallery (Class F1) uses, whilst the latter remains part of the baseline, the merging of the museum and (retained) gallery into a singular building would only reinforce those linked trips, it is therefore considered that in the baseline condition the overall number of trips would not materially increase beyond those originally forecast.
- 5.5. For these reasons, it is considered that the original parameters against which the Transport Assessment and Travel Plan were assessed are the worst-case scenario. As a result, any improvement on the worst-case means that the conclusions (and mitigations) of this Environmental Statement chapter remain unchanged.
- 5.6. This application relates to a second phase of development, with it being forecast for completion in October 2028. The approved ES assumed a build programme commencing in 2023 and being fully operational from early 2026. The now proposed ranges assumes a longer time period for construction in the lead up to the full operation of the overall scheme. This new programme is considered to be less condensed and thus less impactful regime of works; thus the original ES considered the worst case.
- 5.7. The original mitigations proposed within the ES remain valid such as the use of Construction Environmental Management Plans and restrictions upon hours of working.

Air Quality

- 5.8. The Air Quality ES chapter includes a summary of relevant air quality policy and legislation; a description of the existing air quality conditions near the Proposed Development site; the methods used to assess likely significant effects; and assessment of the potential impact and where necessary, recommended mitigation.

- 5.9. The conclusion of the Air Quality chapter from the previous ES was that the relevant air quality objectives for NO₂, PM₁₀ and PM₂₅ were predicted to be met at all existing and proposed human receptors. The impact of operational traffic as a result of the Proposed Development was also predicted to be negligible at all human receptors.
- 5.10. As with the Transport Chapter addendum set out above, given the proposed changes to the Proposed Development will result in a reduction in floorspace and a continuation of linked trips, it can also be assumed that the assessment in the original Air Quality chapter of the ES has been done based on the worst-case scenario, which was deemed acceptable as the full planning application was approved. As such, the conclusions of the Air Quality chapter remain unchanged.
- 5.11. This application relates to the second phase of development, with it originally being forecast for completion in October 2025, with the overall development being completed by 2030/2031. The approved ES assumed a build programme commencing in 2023 and being fully operational from early 2026. The now proposed ranges assumes a longer time period for construction in the lead up to the full operation of the overall scheme, with this phase expected to be completed in October 2028. Comparable to the Transport Chapter, this new programme is considered to be less condensed and thus less impactful regime of works; thus the original ES considered the worst case. The original best practice mitigations proposed within the ES remain valid.

Appendix 1: Non-Technical Summary

Appendix 2: Socio-Economics ES Chapter – 2022

Appendix 3.1: Built Heritage Impact Assessment & Setting Assessment (Pegasus Group – August 2024)

Appendix 3.2: Desk Based Archaeological Assessment (Pegasus Group – August 2024)

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

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