

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL INVESTMENT & REGENERATION SERVICE

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) – SECTION 70

DELEGATED DECISION TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Reference No:	2026/62/90905/E
Site Address:	Batley Grammar School, Carlinghow Hill, Batley, WF17 0AD
Description:	Installation of new entrance steps, ramp and door (within a Conservation Area)
Recommending Officer:	Morgan Braithwaite

DECISION – Conditional Full Permission

I hereby authorise the approval of this application for the reasons set out in the officer's report and recommendation annexed below in respect of the above matter.

Sarah Longbottom

AUTHORISED OFFICER

Date: 17 June 2026

OFFICER REPORT

Site Description

Batley Grammar School, Carlinghow Hill, Batley, WF17 0AD is located to the north-west of Carlinghow Hill. The school is faced in stone, has both vehicular and pedestrian access, with a combination of stone walls and iron fencing at the principle elevation.

The area is predominantly residential with access to various local amenities. It is noted that the application site is located within the Conservation Area on the Council's GIS system.

Description of Proposal

The applicant seeks permission for the installation of new entrance steps, ramp and front door (within a Conservation Area).

Supporting Information – In addition to the submitted plans the following documents have been submitted to support the application:

- Coal mining risk assessment
- Heritage statement

History of Negotiations/Amendments

Kirklees Development Management Charter together with the National Planning Policy Framework and the DMPO 2015 encourages negotiation/engagement between Local Planning Authorities and agents/applicants. As the proposal was considered acceptable, no amendments were sought.

Relevant Planning History

2002/90312: Erection of extensions to form classrooms and storage and erection of detached storage building – Conditional Full Permission

2017/92125: Dead or Dangerous Tree (Tree Branch) – Noted

2022/92712: Work to trees within a conservation area - Granted

2026/

Representations

The Council are currently undertaking the legal statutory publicity requirements, as set out at Table 1 in the Kirklees Development Management Charter. As such, this application has been publicised via a site notice.

Final publicity date expired: 8th June 2026

No representations were received as a result of the publicity.

Consultation Responses

No consultations have been requested as part of the planning process.

Policy

The site is allocated falling in the Upper Batley Conservation Area within the Kirklees Local Plan (adopted 2019).

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that planning applications are determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The statutory Development Plan for Kirklees is the Local Plan (adopted 27th

February 2019). The site is unallocated on the Kirklees Local Plan. On 12th November 2019, the Council adopted a target for achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2038, with an accompanying carbon budget set by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. National Planning Policy includes a requirement to promote carbon reduction and enhance resilience to climate change through the planning system and these principles have been incorporated into the formulation of Local Plan policies. The Local Plan predates the declaration of a climate emergency and the net zero carbon target; however, it includes a series of policies which are used to assess the suitability of planning applications in the context of climate change. When determining planning applications, the Council will use the relevant Local Plan policies and guidance documents to embed the climate change agenda.

Kirklees Local Plan Policies

- **LP 1** – Achieving sustainable development
- **LP2** – Place shaping
- **LP 21** – Highway and Access
- **LP 22** Parking
- **LP 24** – Design
- **LP35** – Historic Environment

Kirklees Council adopted supplementary planning guidance on house extensions on 29th June 2021 which now carries full weight in decision making. This guidance indicates how the Council will usually interpret its policies regarding such built development, although the general thrust of the advice is aligned with both the Kirklees Local Plan (KLP) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), requiring development to be considerate in terms of the character of the host property and the wider street scene. As such, it is anticipated that this SPD will assist with ensuring enhanced consistency in both approach and outcomes relating to house extensions.

National Policies and Guidance

National planning policy and guidance is set out in National Policy Statements, primarily the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published December 2024, and the Planning Practice Guidance Suite (PPGS) first launched 6th March 2014 together with Circulars, Ministerial Statements and associated technical guidance. The NPPF constitutes guidance for local planning authorities and is a material consideration in determining applications.

- Chapter 2 – Achieving sustainable development
- Chapter 12 – Achieving well-designed and beautiful places
- Chapter 14 – Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
- Chapter 16 – Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

A consultation draft of the National Planning Policy Framework (the Framework) was published on 16 December 2025. As a consultation, the document is at an early stage and subject to change. Accordingly, for the

purposes of this application, no weight is given to the current consultation document.

Supplementary Planning Documents/Guidance

Kirklees Highway Design Guide (adopted November 2019)

Legislation

The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

Section 38(6) of the Planning Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 sets out that in considering planning applications the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Assessment

The following matters are considered in the assessment below –

- 1) Principle of development
- 2) Impact on the character and appearance of the area (including impact upon the historic environment)
- 3) Impact on residential amenity
- 4) Impact on highway safety
- 5) Other matters
- 6) Representations
- 7) Conditions
- 8) Conclusion

1) Principle of development

The site is without notation of the Kirklees Local Plan (KLP). Policy LP1 of the KLP states that when considering development proposals, the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the NPPF. In terms of extending and making alterations to the property, Policy LP24 of the KLP is relevant, in conjunction with Chapter 12 of the NPPF, regarding design. In this case, the principle of development is considered acceptable, and the proposal shall now be assessed against all other planning considerations, including visual and residential amenity, as well as highway safety.

Policy LP1 states that when considering development proposals, the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. LP1 goes on further to stating that: The Council will always work pro-actively with applicants jointly to find solutions which mean that the proposal can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area. Policy LP2 sets out that all development proposals should seek to build on the strengths, opportunities and help address challenges identified in the Local Plan. Policy LP24 of the KLP is relevant and states that “good design should be at the core of all proposals in the district”.

As the site is located within the Upper Batley Conservation Area; therefore Section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 needs to be considered, which requires Local Planning Authorities to pay special attention in order to preserve or enhance the character and setting of buildings or land within a Conservation Area.

'Development proposals affecting a designated heritage asset...should preserve or enhance the significance of the asset. In cases likely to result in substantial harm or loss, development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposals would bring substantial public benefits that clearly outweigh the harm'. The dimensions of sustainable development will be considered throughout the proposal. In terms of extending and making alterations to a property, Policy LP24 of the KLP is relevant, in conjunction with Chapter 12 of the NPPF, regarding design. In this case, the principle of development is considered acceptable, and the proposal shall now be assessed against all other material planning considerations, including visual and residential amenity, as well as highway safety. These issues along with other policy considerations will be addressed below. Considering the above policy, the principle of the development is considered to be acceptable.

2) Impact on visual amenity

Section 12 of the NPPF discusses good design. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development; it creates better places in which to live and work and helps to make development acceptable to communities. Local Plan Policies LP1, LP2 and most importantly LP24, are all also relevant. All the policies seek to achieve good quality design that retains a sense of local identity, which is in keeping with the scale of development in the local area and is visually attractive.

Historic Environment

Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act (1990) states that for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

Section 66 of the Planning (Listed Building & Conservation Areas) Act (1990) is mirrored in Policy LP35 of the Kirklees Local Plan and Chapter 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Furthermore, Policy LP35 states that: "development proposals affecting a designated heritage asset...should preserve or enhance the significance of the asset. In cases likely to result in substantial harm or loss, development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposals would bring substantial public benefits that clearly outweigh the harm."

The installation of new entrance steps, ramp and door to the front of the building is considered to be sympathetic and have no extra impact than the existing stairs at the front of the building. The materials used are to match that already existing with the exception of the doorframe, which is to be aluminium, replacing the existing timber. This is deemed to have no significant impact upon the visual amenity of the property due to the presence of modern windows and the iron fencing present at the front of the property.

It is concluded that there are public benefits associated with the proposal given it would serve an existing community building (school) and improve access arrangements. Therefore, subject to condition, the proposed development is considered to comply with Policies LP1, LP2, LP24, and LP35 of the Kirklees Local Plan, and Policies within Chapters 12 and 16 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

3) Impact on residential amenity

Policy LP24 of the Kirklees Local Plan and Chapter 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework seeks to ensure development has an acceptable impact upon the amenity of neighbouring occupiers.

Due to the limited scale of the development at the application site and away from neighbouring residential development, it is considered that there will be no significant impact upon neighbouring properties with regards to overlooking, overshadowing/loss of light or overbearing impacts.

In summary, the proposal would have no adverse impact upon the residential amenity of adjacent occupiers and would accord with Policy LP24 of the KLP.

4) Impact on highway safety

Policies LP21 and LP22 of the Kirklees Local Plan and policies within chapter 9 of the NPPF relate to access and highway safety and are considered to be relevant to the consideration of this application. The Council's adopted Highway Design Guide and which seeks to ensure acceptable levels of off-street parking are retained is also considered to be of relevance.

It should be noted that although nothing specific is detailed on the submitted plans, the site will retain adequate space for waste storage. The necessary parking provision on site will not increase as a result of the development, therefore, the current parking provision is acceptable to remain. The development is set back adequately from the highway and as a result will have no significant impact upon highway safety.

Therefore, the proposal would not represent any additional harm in terms of highway safety and as such, complies with Policy LP22 of the Kirklees Local Plan along with Key Design Principles 15 & 16 of the House Extensions and Alterations SPD.

5) Other matters

Carbon Budget

On 12th November 2019, the Council adopted a target for achieving 'net zero' carbon emissions by 2038, with an accompanying carbon budget set by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. National Planning Policy includes a requirement to promote carbon reduction and enhance resilience to climate change through the planning system and these principles have been incorporated into the formulation of Local Plan policies. The Local Plan pre-dates the declaration of a climate emergency and the net zero carbon target, however it includes a series of policies which are used to assess the suitability of planning applications in the context of climate change. When determining planning applications the Council will use the relevant Local Plan policies and guidance documents to embed the climate change agenda.

6) Representations

No representations were received as a result of site publicity. The proposal was advertised by site notice, with the public consultation period ending 8th June 2026.

7) Proposed conditions

Along with the standard timescale condition, which is a requirement of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, it is considered appropriate to add the following conditions.

Accordance with the approved plans to ensure the development is carried out in line with the officer's assessment.

Matching materials condition

8) Conclusion

The application to install new entrance steps ramp and door at Batley Grammar School, Carlinghow Hill, Batley, WF17 0AD has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan as listed in the policy section of the report, the House Extensions and Alterations SPD, the National Planning Policy Framework and other material considerations.

The NPPF has introduced a presumption in favour of sustainable development. The policies set out in the NPPF taken as a whole constitute the Government's view of what sustainable development means in practice.

As set out above, this application has been assessed against relevant policies in the development plan and other material considerations. It is considered that the development would constitute sustainable development and is therefore recommended for approval.

Recommendation CONDITIONAL FULL PERMISSION

Decision Authorisation – Delegated Powers

Application Number: 2026/90905

Officer Recommendation: Conditional Full Permission

Conditions and Reasons

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun within three years of the date of this permission.

Reason: Pursuant to the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in complete accordance with the plans and specifications schedule listed in this decision notice, except as may be specified in the conditions attached to this permission, which shall in all cases take precedence.

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt as to what is being permitted and so as to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the development on completion, and to accord with Policies LP24 and LP35 of the Kirklees Local Plan and the aims of the National Planning Policy Framework.

NOTE: The granting of planning permission does not override any private legal rights or consents that may be required. It is the responsibility of the applicant / developer to ensure that all appropriate consents are in place prior to any development commencing; during the period of construction existing access for neighbouring properties is maintained; and no damage is caused to the access driveway or surrounding properties.

NOTE: To minimise noise disturbance at nearby premises it is generally recommended that activities relating to the erection, construction, alteration, repair or maintenance of buildings, structures or roads shall not take place outside the hours of:

07.30 and 18.30 hours, Mondays to Fridays

08.00 and 13.00hours, Saturdays

With no working Sundays or Public Holidays

In some cases, different site-specific hours of operation may be appropriate. Under the Control of Pollution Act 1974, Section 60 Kirklees Environment and Transportation Services can control noise from construction/ sites by serving a notice. This notice can specify the hours during which the works may be carried out.

Plans and specifications schedule: -

Plan Type	Plan Reference	Web ID	Date Received
Site Location Plan, Block Plan, Existing and Proposed Floor Plans and Elevations	PL01	-	22/04/2026
General	Coal Mining Risk Assessment	-	22/04/2026
General	Heritage Statement	-	22/04/2026

Pursuant to article 35 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order 2015 and guidance in the National Planning Policy Framework, the Local Planning Authority have, where possible, made a pre-application advice service available, complied with the Kirklees Development Management Charter 2024 and otherwise actively engaged with the applicant in dealing with the application.

No alterations have been sought since submission as the proposals were considered to be acceptable in their original form.

Report Dated: 17.06.2026

