

Field House, Dewsbury

Supporting Document - Proposed Louvres

AUGUST 2026



Introduction

Foreword

This statement has been prepared in support of an application for Listed Building Consent for the installation of 2no. louvres within the heads of existing ground floor window openings. The louvres are required to provide smoke ventilation as part of the fire safety strategy for the building.

The proposed works form a minor amendment to the refurbishment and change of use of the building, which is progressing in accordance with the previously approved consents 2019/92962 and 2019/92963. This application relates solely to the introduction of the two smoke ventilation louvres and does not propose any wider alteration to the approved scheme.

Requirement for the Works

The proposed louvres are required to facilitate smoke ventilation in accordance with the requirements of Approved Document B of the Building Regulations and the fire strategy prepared by Jensen Hughes.

The fire strategy identifies the requirement for smoke ventilation to ensure that the building can be safely evacuated and that appropriate fire safety measures are incorporated into the refurbished building. The detailed proposals are also being progressed in consultation with Sweco, acting as the Approved Inspector, to ensure that the works satisfy the relevant Building Regulations requirements.

The provision of the louvres is therefore considered necessary to enable the approved refurbishment and change of use to proceed while maintaining an appropriate level of life safety within the building.

Consideration of Alternatives

A number of potential approaches to providing the required smoke ventilation have been considered. Particular regard has been given to the architectural and historic significance of the listed building and to the need to avoid unnecessary intervention into its existing fabric.

The proposed arrangement has been selected as the least intrusive and most sympathetic solution identified. By incorporating the louvres discreetly within the heads of the existing ground floor windows, the requirement for smoke ventilation can be accommodated without introducing prominent new openings, significant alterations to the façade, or unnecessary intervention elsewhere within the building.

The proposal therefore seeks to achieve the necessary fire safety improvements while retaining as much of the existing building fabric and architectural character as reasonably practicable.

The Applicant has engaged with Kirklees Conservation Officers throughout the wider refurbishment works and sought pre-application advice in this instance also. Useful feedback was provided by the Conservation Officer which has fed into the design development of the proposed solution.

Heritage and Architectural Considerations

The proposed louvres are considered to have a limited impact on the special architectural and historic interest of the building.

Importantly, there is an existing precedent within the original building for louvres of a similar nature to be integrated within window openings. Similar details can also be found on other buildings within the surrounding area. The proposed approach therefore reflects an established architectural solution rather than introducing an entirely new or incongruous feature.

Locating the louvres within the heads of the existing ground floor windows allows them to form part of the existing window composition and reduces their visual prominence. The intervention avoids the creation of additional standalone openings and limits the extent of alteration to the existing façade.

The proposed louvres will be finished in polyester powder-coated (PPC) aluminium, RAL 7021. This colour has been selected to complement and match other existing similar elements on the building, thereby ensuring that the new installations sit comfortably within the established material and colour palette.

The use of a matching finish will assist in visually recessing the louvres and avoiding unnecessary contrast with the existing building fabric.

Introduction (Continued)

Extent and Impact of the Proposed Works

The works are limited to 2no. louvres, each located within the head of an existing ground floor window opening. No further alteration to the window arrangement or wider façade is proposed.

The limited scale of the intervention, it's integration within existing openings, and the proposed matching finish mean that the louvres will have a very modest visual presence.

The proposal also avoids more extensive interventions that could otherwise require the formation of new openings or greater alteration to the historic fabric. On this basis, the proposed solution represents a proportionate response to the functional requirements of the building.

Conclusion

The proposed installation of 2no. smoke ventilation louvres is a necessary component of the building's fire safety strategy and is required to meet the relevant requirements of Approved Document B of the Building Regulations.

The design has been developed with consideration of the special architectural and historic interest of the listed building. Alternative approaches have been considered, with the proposed arrangement being considered the least intrusive option and the solution that would result in the least impact on the existing building.

The integration of the louvres within the heads of the existing ground floor windows follows an established precedent within the original building and the wider locality. Their proposed PPC aluminium finish in RAL 7021 will complement existing similar elements and minimise their visual impact.

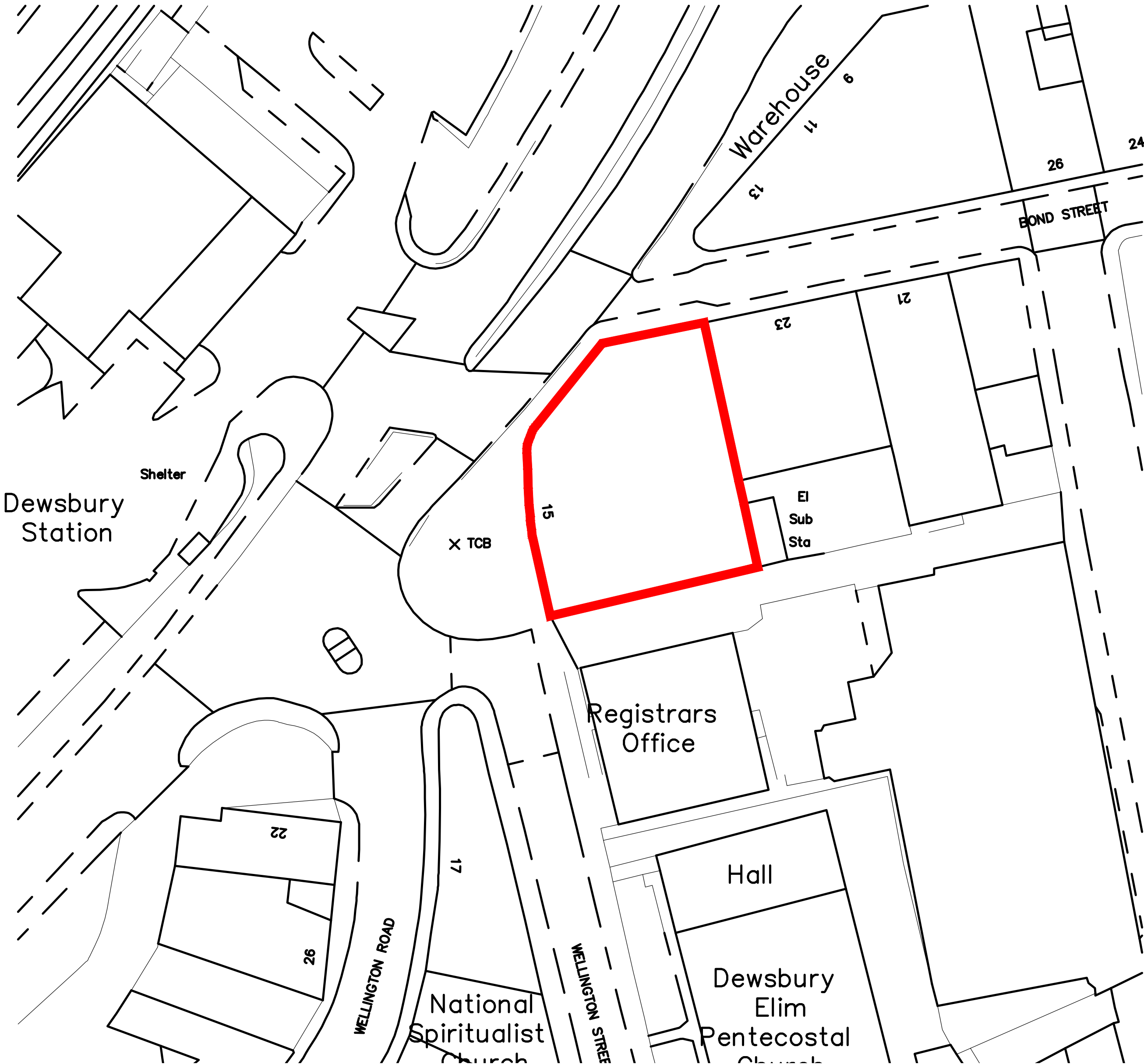
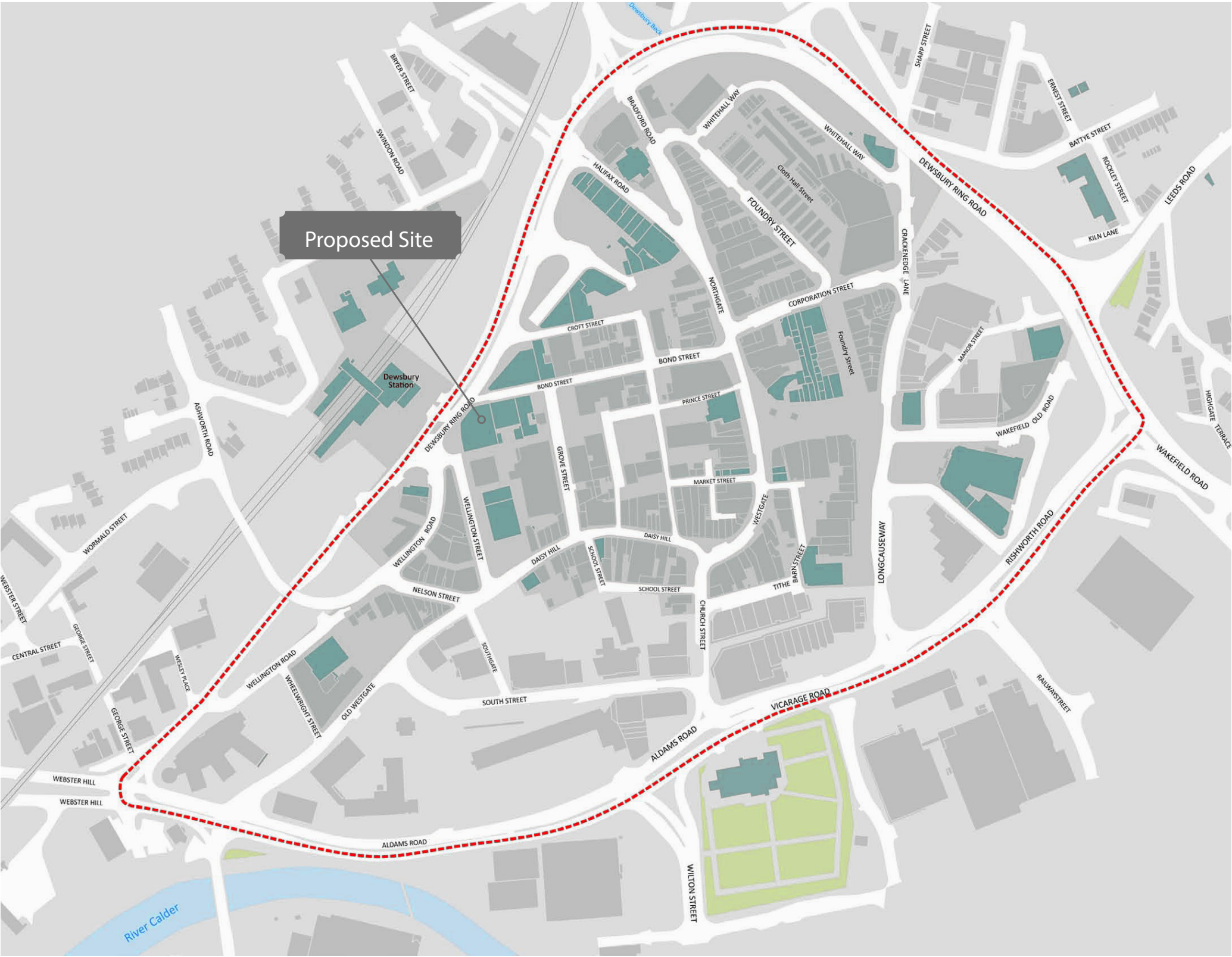
The works are limited in extent and represent a carefully considered intervention which balances the statutory requirement to provide appropriate smoke ventilation with the need to preserve the character and appearance of the listed building.

The proposed works are therefore considered to represent an appropriate, proportionate and sympathetic amendment to the previously consented refurbishment scheme and are respectfully submitted for Listed Building Consent.

Field House

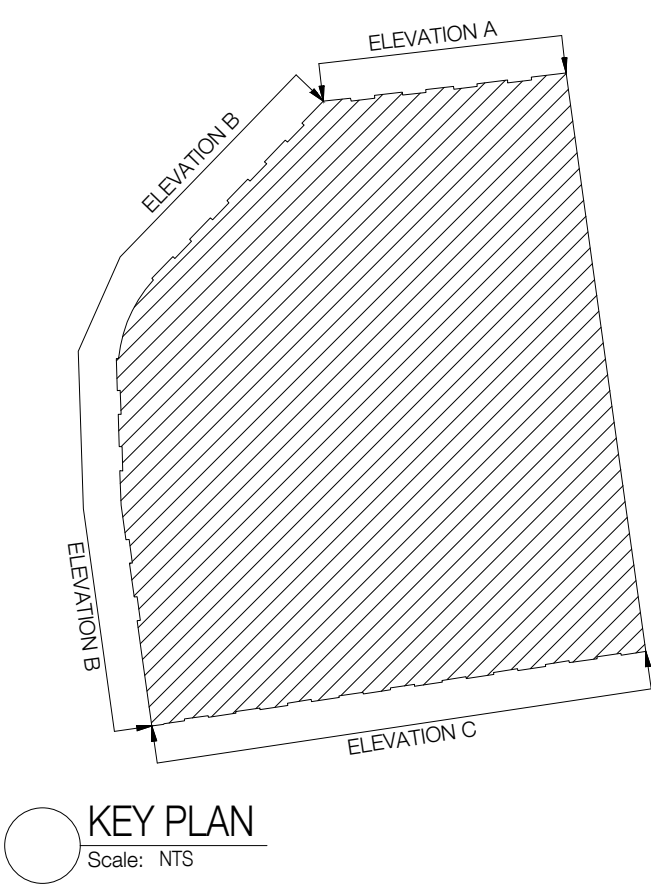
Existing Site

- Listed building
- Conservation area



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Existing Elevation



Proposed Elevation

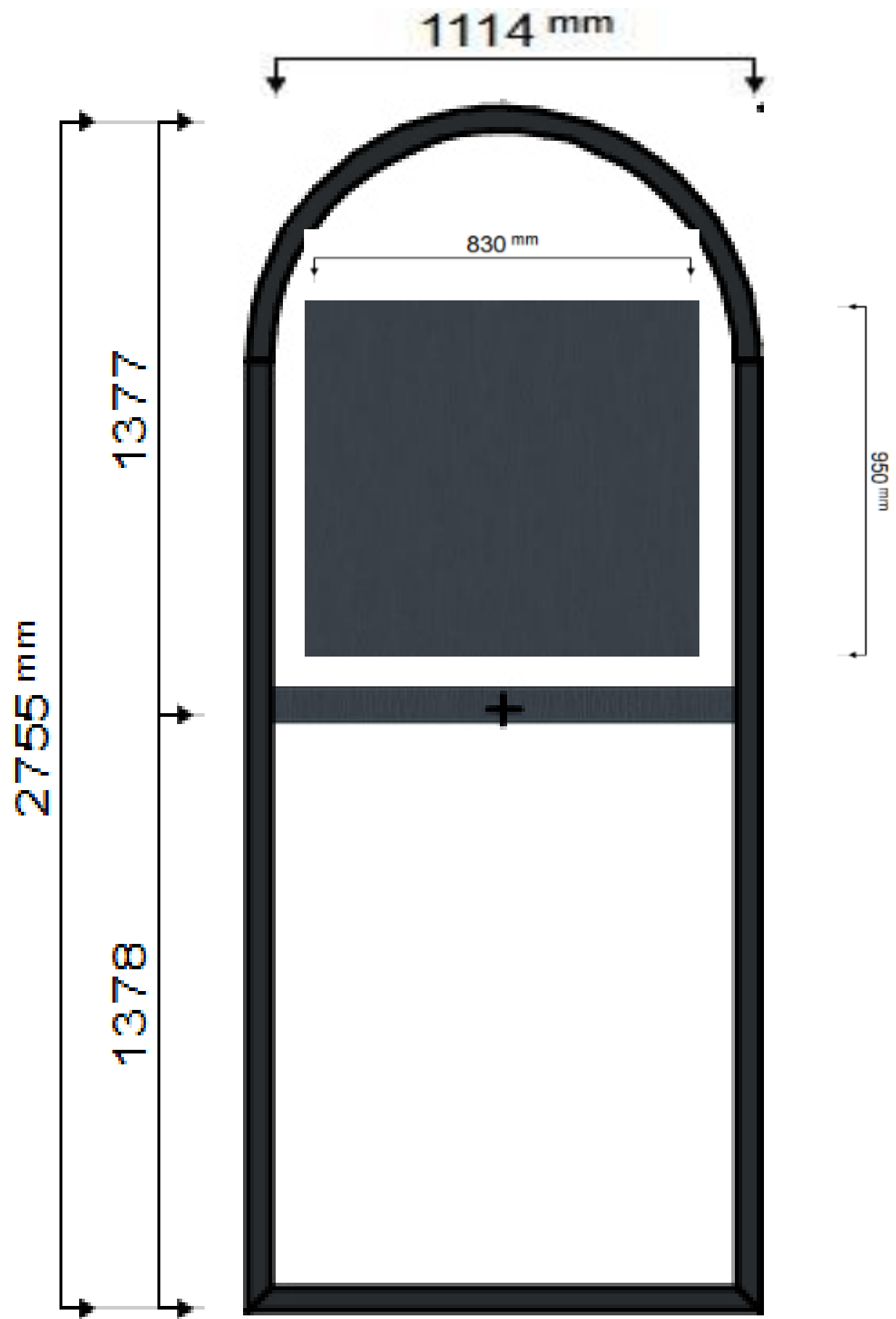


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Proposed Louvre Details



CGI Image of proposed louvres



AVS32

50% Free Area

Product Data Sheet



General Description

The AVS 32 is a small format louvre system providing a high free area specifically designed for use within the window industry that has been used in schools and higher education facilities, hospitals as well as a number of high profile residential and retail schemes.

Technical Details

Materials

- Extruded Aluminium alloy profiles to 6063 T6
- Profile thickness 1.5mm
- Mechanically jointed with corner chevrons

Performance

- Refer to BSRIA performance evaluation data on pages 2, 3 & 4
- 50% Free area based on louvre core (excludes top and bottom blade arrangements and any intervening blade carrying profiles)
- Mean Ce and CD Factors refer to performance data

Dimensions

- 32mm Blade Pitch
- Product depth 38mm o/all
- Glazed-in outer frames to suit as 24, 28 and 32mm standard (alternative glazing thickness' available upon request)
- Glazing rebate height 24mm

Options

- 24 or 28 and 32mm Glazed-In Outer Frames as standard
- 3 Flanged Outer Frame Options
- Box Outer Frame
- Water Drainage Profile (recommended for exposed locations or where minimal water ingress is permissible)
- Fly screen - fitted with Stainless Steel as standard with alternative options available on request
- Birdguard
- Enhanced Security Option
- Blanking Panels – thermal (composite) or simple sheet blanking

Tel: 01903 726 348 • Fax: 01903 680 022

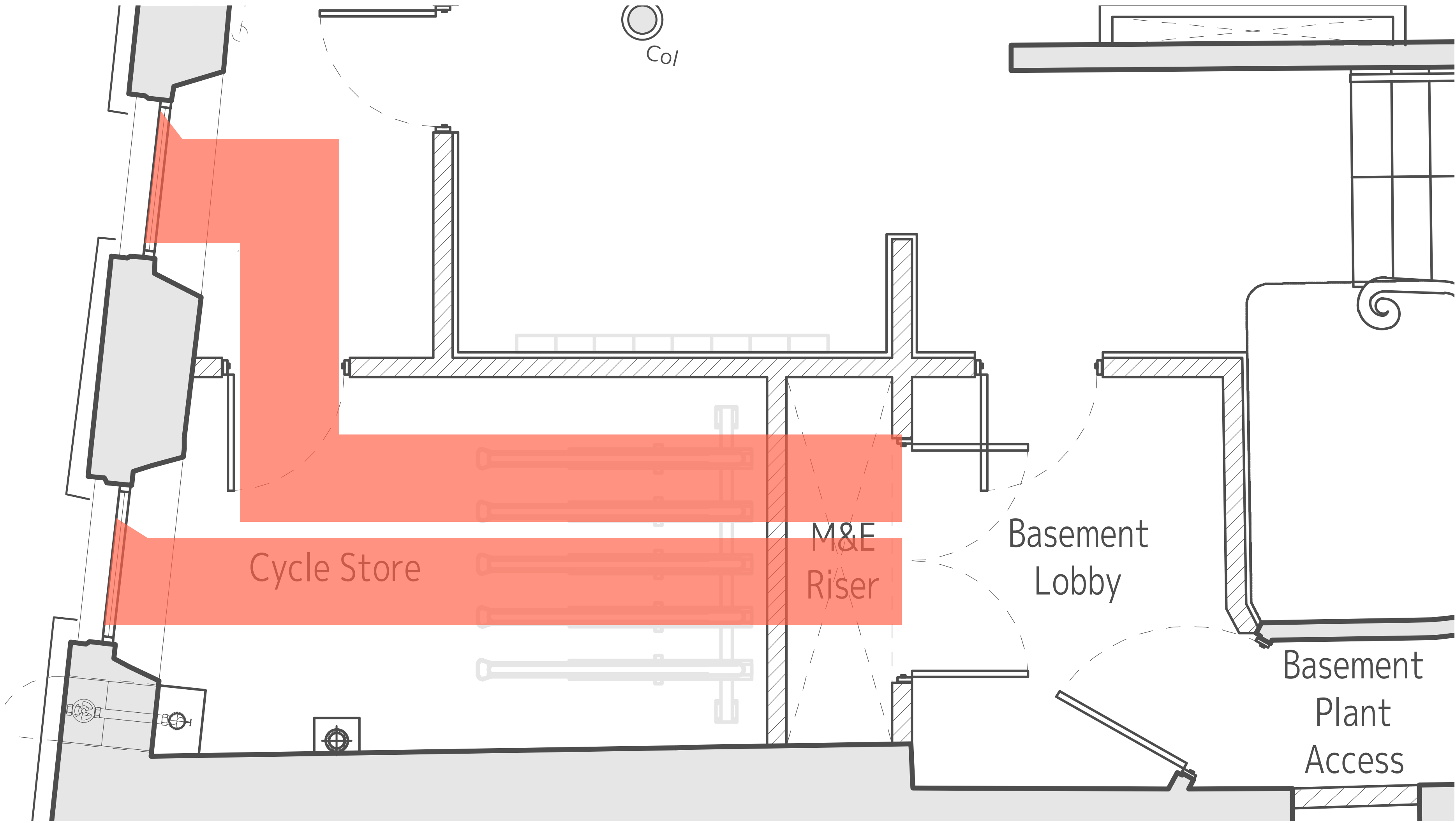
www.advancedventilationsystems.co.uk • info@advancedventilationsystems.co.uk

Advanced Ventilation Systems Ltd, Unit U9, Rudford Industrial Estate, Ford Road, Nr Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 0BD

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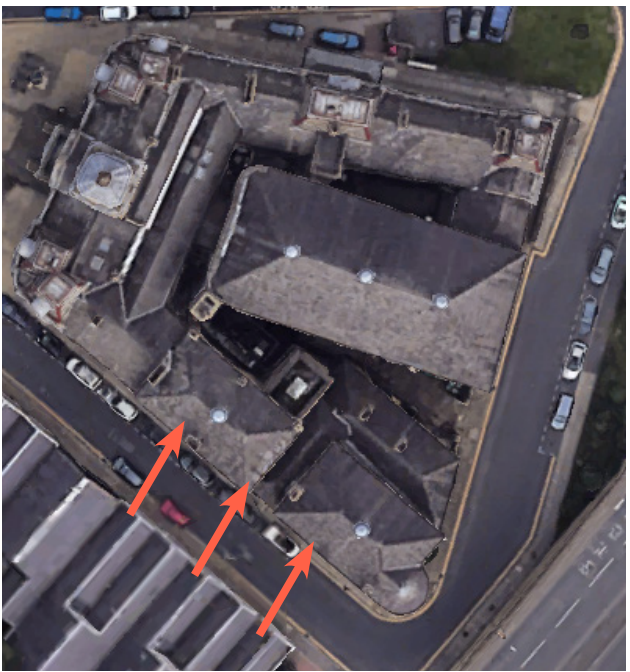
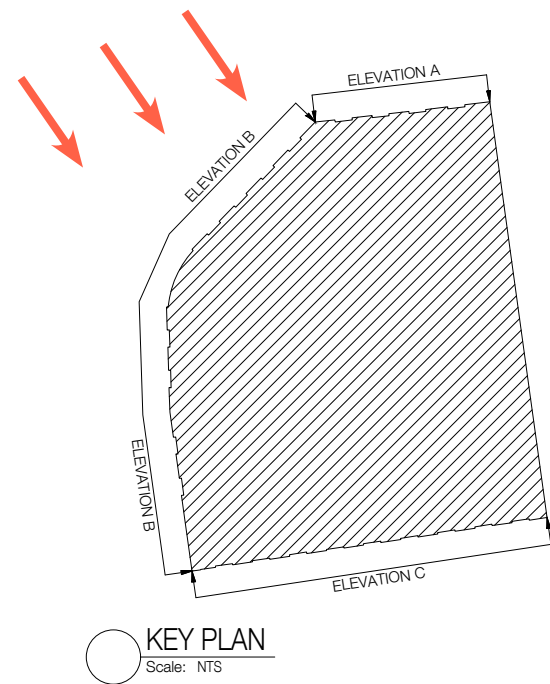
Proposed Ventilation Route

 - 2 no 800 × 650mm Fire rated ducts from the basement lobby to louvres within the head of GF windows supplied and fitted by YMG sub contractor.



Field House

Precedents



Dewsbury town hall and library hub

**Leeds**

6 East Parade,
Leeds, LS1 2AD
+44 (0)113 887 3100

London

1 Naorji St, Clerkenwell,
London, WC1X 0GB
+44 (0)207 553 3030

Manchester

86 King Street,
Manchester, M2 4WQ
+44 (0)161 834 4550

General

dla-architecture.co.uk
reception@dla-architecture.co.uk