



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

Mr Tom Hunt  
Planning Officer  
Kirklees MBC

Manor House  
Trustee  
Conservation and Planning

[conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](mailto:conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

[DC.Admin@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:DC.Admin@kirklees.gov.uk)

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

Dear Mr Hunt

**2023/92417 Erection of two storey welfare facility building (within a Conservation Area).  
Greenhead Park Depot, Trinity Street, Huddersfield, HD1 4DT.**

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development that could affect a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens. The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of the GT and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of registered sites and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations.

Greenhead Park is a Grade II registered park in Huddersfield laid out in 1883 by the Borough Surveyor, Mr Dugdales, with a westward extension added in 1927. There are several listed structures within this public park whilst the northern perimeter road, Park Drive, laid out in 1882, has fine houses overlooking the park. The whole area around, and including, the park lies within the Greenhead Conservation Area.

There is vehicular access via the park's north-west corner into a depot, close to the highest point in the park and also close to Park Drive. The depot is largely surrounded by drab shrubs and trees and consists of basic staff amenity units, skips, brick-built storage sheds and staff parking spaces. This application relates to removing, replacing and resiting these facilities within the existing depot footprint.

The Gardens Trust supports demolition of existing sheds, tidying the positioning of skips/storage units and the intention to provide welfare facilities to modern day standards for staff working in, or based at, the park. However, we have concerns, especially regarding the suitability of what is proposed for a location that is within a registered park and garden (RPG) and conservation area.

Whilst currently screened from most of the park by adjoining shrubbery, this building is close to being at the highest point in the park. The proposed flat-roofed two-storey building is to be 'finished with plastisol coated composite cladding to all elevations' with an entrance door "of robust composite construction". However, we have not noted the proposed colour, and this will also have a bearing on the visibility of the structure from the rest of the RPG. There are no photographs or plans and no Planning and Access and Heritage Statement, to indicate how the new building would impact on the

RPG and as proposed, we consider, the welfare building will be out of keeping with the existing stone and pitched-roof buildings nearby in this conservation area.

We have not seen any explanation for the suitability of this location for including new non-welfare facilities, such as “ancillary office and training / meeting room”. (We understand there are already ample such facilities with car parking and near Huddersfield bus and train stations, about half a mile away at Kirklees’ Civic Centre.)

In terms of taking measures to combat climate change we are disappointed that there are no plans for a heat pump or for future electric vehicle recharging and we have not noted any provision for disabled access to the upstairs of the building.

In summary we support the provision of improved welfare services at this location but have concerns about the impact of the proposed works on the RPG and so object to the current proposals as submitted.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth  
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Yorkshire and the Northeast Historic England; the Gardens Trust