



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Mrs Val Hepworth

Trustee

Conservation and Planning

Mr James Skipper
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23rd October 2024

Dear Mr Skipper

White Rose Forest Consultation on Woodland and Tree Planting Projects: Chapeltown Health Centre, Leeds; Beckett Street Cemetery, Leeds SE3134

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust. The Gardens Trust (GT) is the statutory consultee regarding proposed development affecting a site on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England (RPG) – in this case Beckett Street Cemetery, Leeds, registered Grade II. 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.

Burmantofts or Beckett Street Cemetery, established in 1845, was one of the earliest public funded cemeteries in England; a response to the rapidly increasing population due to industrialisation and the pressing need to bury the dead as churchyards filled up. The cemetery is situated c.2km east-north-east of Leeds city centre on elevated ground with high perimeter boundary walls. It consists of two sections, the Anglican to the south-west and the Nonconformist to the north-east, with entrances, lodges, chapels and main circulation routes arranged symmetrically around the mid-line running through the site from north-west to south-east. The cemetery has closed to new burials, by which time 180,000 people had been interred in some 28,000 graves including 1600 victims of the 1849 cholera epidemic and paupers from the nearby workhouse in unmarked graves. We understand that the local Friends of Beckett Street Cemetery help to maintain it with a scheme that encourages wildlife.

There is one consultation site:

Site Name: Chapeltown Health Centre; NGR: SE3133435126; Description: 2 standard trees

Species: 1X Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), 1X Small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*)

The Health Centre lies within the 1km Buffer Zone of Beckett Street Cemetery to the north-west near Roundhay Road. The proposed tree planting will not affect the RPG and will no doubt enhance the environment of the Health Centre. We trust that the trees will be looked after carefully. We have no objection.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

cc. Kristof Fatsar, Landscape Architect North of England, Historic England
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