



HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO:	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham
DESCRIPTION:	Alterations to building, including the formation of a new side entrance with canopy, replacement and alteration of windows and external openings, demolition and reconstruction of an existing toilet block, and associated external and internal works.
REFERENCE:	DC/26/0367
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice / No Objection / Objection / More Information / Modification / Refusal
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION:	
See below	
MAIN COMMENTS:	
Updated Comments It is noted that the plans have been amended to retain the rear window, and two chimneys to the front elevation. These amendments are supported, and whilst the retention of all chimneys would have been preferred it is suggested that the proposal enables on balance the appreciation of the building's heritage interest. If the application was to be approved it would be suggested that details of materials and external finishes are submitted. Original Comments The Drill Hall is recognised as a locally listed building within the Horsham Town Centre Conservation Area. It is described as a <i>"large fronted two storey building constructed in the 1920s for the Duke of Norfolk Regiment whose badge in opus sectile appears above the entrance. Frontage faintly mimics traditional Sussex hall and wing house. White render at ground level sets off Egyptian style black marble entrance pillars with small Art Deco lamps. Plain red brick above; generous fenestration. Once popular location for Horsham social life."</i> Whilst many of the proposed changes would be considered to retain the character of this locally listed building there are some changes which would dilute the buildings interest. The proposal seeks to remove all the chimneys on the building. The building's chimneys contribute to the architectural significance of the building as well as breaking up the	

roofscape and adding interest to the streetscene. Chimneys also inform our understanding of the plan form of a historic building and can provide valuable evidence of changes in technology, fashion and wealth. An objection would therefore be raised to the loss of these features.

There would also be a concern at the infilling of the rear half circular window. The window reads with the decorative features to the rear of the building and its loss would reduce an appreciation of the buildings past function. Although not the principal elevation, the rear is publicly viewable from the car park, and it would be suggested that a more sympathetic solution is considered.

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS:

NAME:	Nicola Mason
DEPARTMENT:	Strategic Planning
DATE:	13/04/26 Amended Consultation 28/04/2026