



PLANNING CONSULTATION RESPONSE

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| Application No | 2025/0947 |
| Proposal | Renewal of external lighting and installation of CCTV (Listed Building Consent). |
| Address | Northern College, Lowe Lane, Stainborough, Barnsley, S75 3ET |
| Date of Consultation Reply | 28.11.2025 |
| Consultee | Charlie Atkinson Design & Conservation Apprentice |

Consultation Assessment and Justification

The main consideration is: -

- Whether or not the proposed alterations would harm the special architectural or historic interest or impact on the setting of the listed Building

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

Section 16 (2): 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

Policy

NPPF 207/208: Identify and assess heritage significance including the setting and the effect of a proposal

NPPF 212: Great weight given to an asset's conservation, irrespective of the degree of harm

NPPF para 213: Any harm to or loss of significance will require clear and convincing justification

Barnsley Local Plan HE1: The Historic Environment

Barnsley Local Plan Policy HE3: Developments affecting Historic Buildings

Conservation Comments:

This application seeks Listed Building Consent (LBC) for the renewal and introduction of external lighting and the installation of CCTV at Northern College – Wentworth Castle, Lowe Lane, Stainborough.

Wentworth Castle is a Grade I listed building, constructed in several phases between the late 17th and 19th centuries. The earliest section, known as Cutler House, was built for Sir Gervase Cutler II and comprises three storeys with a seven-bay symmetrical sandstone façade in the Restoration style, featuring a central doorway and single-storey porch. Later additions include the Baroque Wing, commissioned in the early 18th century by Sir Thomas Wentworth, which introduced a grand 15-bay symmetrical façade with giant order pilasters, balustrades, and a central entrance bearing the family coat of arms. Internally, this phase is notable for its large floor to ceiling spaces such as the long gallery. The final phase, the South Front, was added by William Wentworth and reflects a Palladian style with a 13-bay symmetrical façade, central pediment, Corinthian columns, and Venetian windows.

The surrounding landscape and gardens are also designated as a Grade I historic parks and gardens, recognised for their historical and artistic significance. Wentworth Castle holds



exceptional heritage value both locally, regionally, and nationally, with strong associations to the Earls of Strafford and influence on Wentworth Woodhouse and its estate.

Although the proposal is relatively modest and well-justified, its impact on the significance of these heritage assets must be carefully considered. The applicant, Northern College, has identified the need for improved lighting to enhance safety, wayfinding, and emergency escape routes, and the introduction of CCTV to deter unauthorised access and strengthen night-time security, protecting site users, historic fabric, and college contents.

The works include the renewal of existing external lights, the introduction of new lighting - particularly for fire escape routes - and the installation of CCTV around the building and immediate approaches.

Lighting:

Baroque Wing, east elevation - The proposal includes two freestanding pole lights and three low-level bollards to improve visibility and wayfinding in emergencies, particularly due to level changes from the dining room. However, this prominent elevation's symmetrical and grand appearance could be impacted negatively by the works. Alternative solutions should be explored, such as further low-level bollards as already in situ or projecting light from stair corners on the ground, reducing reliance on intrusive pole lighting.

Baroque Wing, north elevation - Two replacement fixtures are proposed, utilising existing wiring and fixings. This intervention is minimal and acceptable from a conservation perspective.

Baroque Wing, west elevation - A new light installation is proposed. Further clarity is required on how wiring will be fitted to avoid damage to decorative plaster within the Italian staircase. On site discussions with the architect had suggested a freestanding solution to mitigate this risk. However, the provision of external discrete wiring would be acceptable.

Cutler House, north elevation - The proposal includes replacing an existing fitting and introducing a new light, with wiring set within stone joints. This approach is considered acceptable.

Bin Store - The replacement of lighting using existing fixtures and fittings is acceptable.

Lighting units that are being replaced are acceptable in principle.

CCTV Assessment - The proposed CCTV installations are acceptable in principle, enhancing site safety and security. Units should be fixed within stone joints for reversibility and minimal harm, and wiring must avoid historic internal fabric such as decorative plaster.

Overall, the proposal is minimal and unlikely to harm the significance of Wentworth Castle. However, clarification is required regarding the two pole lights on the Baroque eastern elevation. Subject to this and the following conditions, approval is recommended from a conservation perspective.

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| | Defer for amends/further information* | |
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*Delete as applicable

Consultation Suggested Conditions:

- Replacement lighting units shall be fitted using existing fixtures and fittings.
- New lighting units shall be fitted within the joints of the stonework.
- The Cameras shall be black and fitted within the joints of the stonework.

Consultation Informative(s):

N/A



BARNSLEY

Metropolitan Borough Council

Planning Obligations required:

N/A