

YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood Vice-presidents: Lady Legard, Peter Goodchild, Nick Lane Fox www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Mr Chris Peach

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20th December 2025

Dear Mr Peach

25/01096/FULL Installation of Solar Panels to the existing roof structure, Woodford Leisure Centre, Holderness Road, Kingston Upon Hull, HU18 8JU. [East Park, Hull.]

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development affecting a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens (RPG) – East Park, Registered at 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.

East Park lies 6km east of Hull City Centre covering an area of 36ha. It was laid out by the Kingston upon Hull Borough Engineer, Joseph Fox Sharp, in the late 19th century and has 20th century additions. The site is largely flat, except for the 1880's rockwork (known as the Khyber Pass), terracing and mounds to the west of the site. The parkland includes mature tree lined paths, ornamental gardens, sports fields, bowling greens, valley garden to the south of the Khyber Pass, model yacht pond, small zoo, boating lake with grade II listed Water Chute and Children's playground.

The proposed development site is part of the existing Woodford Leisure Centre located immediately beyond part of the south-east registered boundary. It also lies within the Holderness Road (East) Conservation Area. East Park's mature trees and hedges are a feature of the RPG and the Conservation Area and important for the natural environment in this part of Hull.

We understand that the proposed rooftop solar PV installation mounted flush to a series of roof slopes will not result in any alteration to building form or visual massing but will help deliver your Council's Climate Emergency Declaration and enhance the Leisure Centre's building resilience. We think that the impact on East Park and the surrounding Conservation Area will be minimal.

Overall, we conclude that the public benefit of this proposal outweighs any possible minor degree of harm, and the Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection to this planning application.

