
From: Kelleher, Shane (E,I&S)
Sent: 30 September 2025 10:13
To: Planning (SMDC)
Subject: EC3210SM - DOC/2025/0065 - Dye House, Rushton Spencer - SCCHET advice

Importance: High

Categories:

Dear Hannah,

Thank you for consulting with Staffordshire County Council's Historic Environment Team (SCCHET) with regards to the above discharge of condition application. Unfortunately we are not yet in a position to advise whether Condition 16 of SMD/2018/0770 can be satisfactorily discharged, as our Curatorial Fees have not yet been paid by the applicant/agent thereof. We made it clear to the applicant/agent via their appointed archaeological contractor pre and subsequent to submission of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) towards discharge of the condition, that we would not be able to review and approve the WSI until our fees had been paid. However, we were informed by the appointed archaeological contractor that the architect acting on behalf of the applicant is refusing to pay our fees.

As you are aware, SCCHET acts as the archaeological advisor to SMDC and we are required by SCC to recover the costs of our involvement in ensuring that an archaeological condition can be satisfactorily discharged (including reviewing WSIs, liaising with contractors/consultants, undertaking site monitoring visits where necessary, and reviewing reports). The costs are recovered from the applicant via our Curatorial Fees. The fees are paid using our online payment form, usually by the archaeological contractor/consultant, who recovers this through their fee, or directly by the applicant/agent thereof. This system has been in place since 2018 and similar means of recovering costs are in existence across the country (apart from an initial 'bedding in' period we haven't had any refusals to pay across the county until now). More details about our fees, what they cover and how to pay, can be found in our Archaeology Standard (click on the link in my email signature below for more). The current costs can be found here <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/environment/Environment-and-countryside/HistoricEnvironment/Advice-and-guidance.aspx>. In this instance, for the purpose of our fees, this should be considered to be a 'Small Development' (currently £211 ex VAT).

If the applicant/agent thereof pays our fees in advance of the application deadline, we would be happy to review the WSI and advise further with regards to the condition. If not, then our advice would be that the condition should not be discharged as you would not be in a position to determine whether what is proposed is appropriate without the input of your specialist archaeological advisors.

Please let me know if you have any questions or queries.

Best wishes,

Shane

Shane Kelleher MCifA | County Archaeologist Environment & Countryside - Environmental Advice

Office: 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP

www.staffordshire.gov.uk

Learn more about Staffordshire County Council's Historic Environment Team, how we can help, and our fees, in Staffordshire County Council's Archaeology Standard, where you can also find our Model Briefs, which set a

minimum standard for archaeological works in the county -

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Environment/Documents/SCC-County-Archaeology-Standard-v1-incl-Model-Briefs.pdf>

-----Original Message-----

From: Planning (SMDC)

Sent: 17 September 2025 08:18

To: DSD HER

Subject: External Consultation Letter - App ref DOC/2025/0065

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