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For the attention of: Sarah Papaleo – Case Officer
Cumberland Council (Copeland area)

[By email: Development.Control3@cumberland.gov.uk]

6th February 2026

Dear Ms Papaleo

Re: Planning application 4/23/2275/0F1

Extension and alteration of existing building to create a community hub including cafe, relocation of existing sculptures to rear of building, public realm improvements including restoration of memorial fountain and creation of new landscaped areas, accessibility improvements at Cleator Moor Library, Market Square, Cleator Moor – 2nd Reconsultation

Thank you for your notification of 5 February 2026 seeking further views of the Coal Authority (trading as the Mining Remediation Authority) on the above.

The Coal Authority response: **Material Consideration**

We initially commented on this application to the LPA dated 18th October 2023. In this letter we noted that the only development taking place within the Development High Risk Area is the refurbishment of the existing car parking area, which is unlikely to require significant groundworks or foundations. As such, we advised that we did not consider that a Coal Mining Risk Assessment is required to support the proposal and did not object to the application.

We understand that the LPA is now in receipt of additional and updated information in support of this planning application. However, we note that it remains the case that the proposed development within the Development High Risk Area does not appear to require significant groundworks or foundations.

In light of the above, the Coal Authority's Planning & Development Team wishes to raise **no further comments** regarding the application. We do however consider that our previous comments, set out in our initial consultation letter of 18th October 2023 remain valid and relevant to the decision making process.

However, we do recommend that, should planning permission be granted for this proposal, the following updated wording is included as an Informative Note on any planning permission granted:

The proposed development lies partly within an area that has been defined by the Mining Remediation Authority as containing coal mining features at surface or shallow depth. These features may include: mine entries (shafts and adits); shallow coal workings; geological features (fissures and break lines); mine gas and former surface mining sites. Although such features are seldom readily visible, they can often be present and problems can occur, particularly as a result of new development taking place.

Any intrusive activities which disturb or enter any coal seams, coal mine workings or coal mine entries (shafts and adits) requires a Mining Remediation Authority Permit. Such activities could include site investigation boreholes, excavations for foundations, piling activities, other ground works and any subsequent treatment of coal mine workings and coal mine entries for ground stability purposes. Application forms for Mining Remediation Authority permission and further guidance can be obtained from The Mining Remediation Authority's website at: www.gov.uk/get-a-permit-to-deal-with-a-coal-mine-on-your-property

What is a permit and how to get one? –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/permit-process/permit-process>

If any coal mining feature is unexpectedly encountered during development, this should be reported immediately to the Mining Remediation Authority on 0800 288 4242. Further information is available on the Mining Remediation Authority website at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/mining-remediation-authority>.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Bradley Shelton

Bradley Shelton

Apprentice Town Planner

Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by the Coal Authority as a statutory consultee and is based upon the latest available data and the electronic consultation records held by the Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based on the information provided to the Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or information that has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by the Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the applicant for consultation purposes.