

From: Kai Penny <kai@whaleback.co.uk>
Sent: 17 June 2026 16:42:22 UTC+01:00
To: "Hamish Evans" <Hamish.Evans@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: HE Consultation Response: DM/25/1705; DM/25/1706 - Sunte House, Birchen Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1RZ

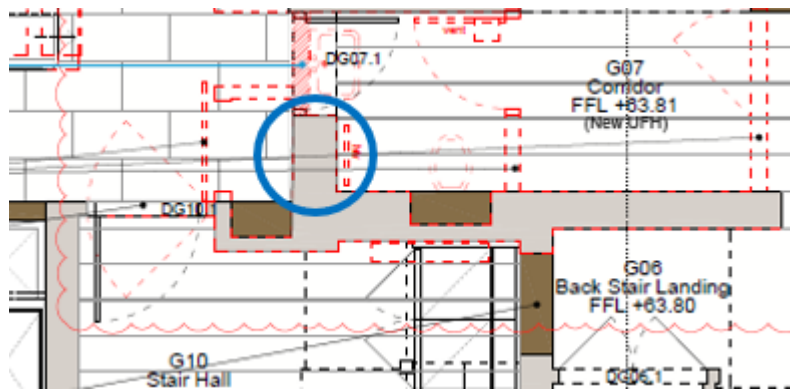
Hi Hamish,

Further to the revised drawings, please find below the applicant's design and heritage response to proposed changes.

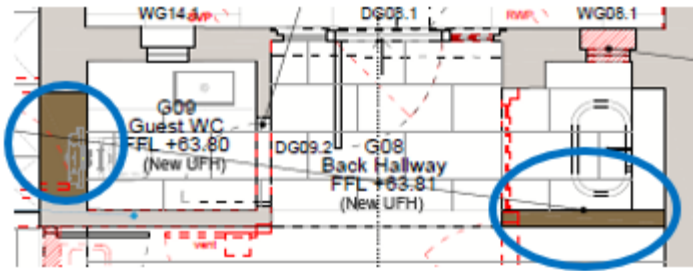
As set out before, the response focuses on the revised to the proposed hallway within the main house, the poolhouse glazing and the Barn's internal framing, given that HE have already expressed support for the other elements of the scheme.

Main House Hallway

In response to Emily's comments, the revised proposals seek to preserve surviving 19th Century fabric, with the nib wall between the kitchen and the proposed hallway now retained. New door D.G07.1 has been created through the removal of modern infill elements, minimising intervention to the 19th-century fabric and enhancing the legibility and appreciation of the historic fabric through the removal of intrusive later alterations.



The infilling of the larger entrance and proposed partition wall would replicate former wall lines that existed in these locations prior to 1987, thereby re-establishing part of the historic plan form in this part of the listed building.



Overall, these revisions ensure that the legibility of the historic fabric is preserved, constitutes a small amount of new fabric (one partition and one infill in an area already heavily altered) and, by reinstating walls according to their former positions, would enhance an understanding of the building's historic plan form. As such, the proposals would both conserve and enhance the significance of the listed building.

Poolhouse Glazing

The poolhouse glazing has been substantially revised in response to Emily's request to preserve the inward looking character of the kitchen garden.

Rooflights are proposed on the flat roof of the plant room and would not be visible from within the wider grounds.

The sauna window has also been substantially reduced in size and is fully screened by a hinged timber shutter. The form and detailing of the window and shutter are intended to evoke a traditional garden gate, reinforcing the enclosed and introverted character of the garden wall while referencing elements commonly found within historic garden enclosures.

Overall, the proposals respond to the enclosed character of the kitchen garden and would therefore preserve the contribution the kitchen garden may make to the character of the site and to the setting of the listed building. Together with the reintroduction of the historic curved wall, the poolhouse would result in an overall enhancement to this part of the site.

Barn Internal Framing

A greater extent of timber framing would be retained at ground-floor level than previously proposed. Impacts on the reused timber framing have been minimised and would be confined to those areas necessary to provide access into the barn extension.

Overall, the impacts on non-original fabric have been further reduced, ensuring the positive contribution that the framing makes to the character of the building would be retained. The submitted floor plans clearly identify the location and extent of the framing proposed for removal but, if considered necessary, we respectfully request that an internal elevation showing the retained framing be secured by condition.

Feel free to call if you think any clarification is required before sending to Emily

Kind regards,

Kai Penny MRTPI
Senior Planner

kai@whaleback.co.uk

Direct: 01273 102245

Office: 01273 234354

WHALEBACK

RTPI Planning Consultants

[Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

www.whaleback.co.uk



Sussex Heritage Trust 2023

[Winner | Small Scale Residential Award](#)

[Winner | Public and Community Award](#)
