



LONDON OFFICE

Ms Caroline Grist
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
RH16 1SS

Direct Dial: 0207 973 3632

Our ref: P01605480; L01605482

9th October 2026

Dear Ms Grist

**Arrangements for Handling Heritage Applications Direction 2015
& T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
& Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**

**WYKEHURST HOUSE, WYKEHURST PARK, COLWOOD LANE, BOLNEY,
HAYWARDS HEATH, WEST SUSSEX RH17 5QQ
Application Nos DM/25/3228; DM/25/3229**

Thank you for your letters of 24th September 2026 regarding further information on the above applications for listed building consent and planning permission. On the basis of the information available to date, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the applications.

Historic England Advice

In our comments on the earlier submission relating to the creation of a large open-plan room from a series of former cellular spaces at second-floor level, we expressed concern that the proposed matching fireplace surrounds lacked historic justification. As the fireplaces were not historically intended to be experienced within a single space, introducing identical surrounds would create a misleading sense of uniformity and diminish understanding of the building's historic layout, development and hierarchy.

We advised that the fireplace designs should respond to the differing proportions of the existing openings in order to better reflect and reinforce the legibility of the building's historic plan form.

The amended proposals have addressed these concerns. The revised fireplace surrounds are now clearly differentiated, responding appropriately to the varying scale and proportions of the existing openings. Their simpler treatment is also



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considered consistent with the likely character and status of second-floor rooms within the historic hierarchy of the building. As such, the fireplaces will make a positive contribution to understanding the building's historic development rather than obscuring it.

Historic England is satisfied that the amended fireplace designs have addressed our previous concerns and considers this aspect of the proposals to be acceptable.

Recommendation

Historic England recommends that your Council should approve this application, which would secure the conservation of Wykehurst House, unless it finds that other considerations would outweigh this benefit

Yours sincerely

Luciana Gallo

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