

Design and Access Statement (listed building consent)

1. Features on the existing site to include:

- Buildings – size, age, style, condition (further detailed information should be provided in the historic environment section if appropriate).
- Gardens, landscaping and other open areas.
- Boundaries – walls, railings, fences or other means of enclosure
- Immediately adjoining buildings and sites.

The West Lighthouse is a grade II listed structure located in Whitehaven Harbour and built in 1814. This Simple stone lighthouse has a glazed lantern and ogival cupola, probably circa 1839. Listing NGR: NX9670718683. It is located on the harbour structure or arm and faces the North lighthouse across the harbour.



2. How access issues have been addressed:

The 'access' component should deal with both interior design and management issues to demonstrate not just compliance with the design details in the Access Design Guide SPD, but also how the applicant intends to meet their duties under the Equality Act 2010 (which incorporates the Disability Discrimination Act 1995).

Susan Philipsz artwork is called 'By Sound Near Seawall, 2021' and is a two-channel sound installation installed in the West and North Pier Lighthouses, Whitehaven Harbour. The artworks comprise a sound work, using two speakers and an audio track that plays every hour from 9am to 6pm. The public can hear the sound work in public space so do not need to access a building to do so. It is fully accessible to those in the harbour area.

The artwork will be accompanied by a sign with information about the artwork. An example of signage design is attached with information about the artwork, title, name and artist, giving full info about it.

Approaches to and around the site, including transport links:

The north and west lighthouses are accessible on foot, they are a short walk from the main town centre. The local train station of Whitehaven, is about 25 min walk.

Car-parking, setting down points, location of dropped kerbs (if required):

There is car parking nearby, at the Beacon Museum, and 2-3 further council car parks in the town.

All entrances, including visibility:

The artwork is located outdoors, and will be easily visible.

General horizontal/vertical circulation and layout arrangements:

N/A

Appropriate use of surface materials:

N/A

Facilities within the building including WC provision, circulation within units and explanation of accessibility standards through all public parts of the building:

The artwork is located outdoors. There are public conveniences at the Beacon Museum nearby and also in pubs, cafes and shops in the town centre.

Way-finding and signage:

Signage will be provided on site see example in the LBC application documents.

An assessment of means of escape:

N/A outdoor artwork.

3. Details of the layout of proposed development

- Relationship of buildings, routes and spaces.
- Safety and security.

See layout plan and drawings for further info on the artwork which will be fixed to an existing building and accessible visually to all. Safety and security have been considered the artwork are over 3 metres above ground, and were installed by a professional contractor employed by Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners.

4. Please provide details of the scale/appearance of the proposed development

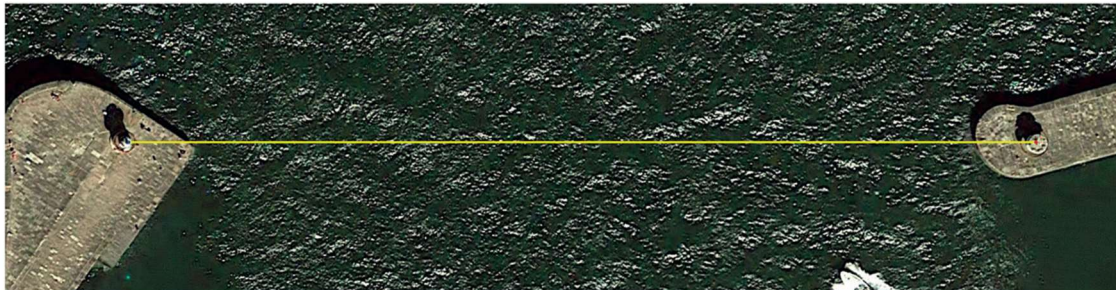
- Height, width, length, materials, detailed design.
- Relationship to surrounding development.
- Relevant local and national policies and guidance.

The artwork comprises of two elements. A speaker that is mounted on the exterior of the lighthouses. One is attached to the North Lighthouse, and mounted on the roof. The second is mounted on the circulate railing that encircles the top of the West Lighthouse.

The control system for the sound work is installed in the lighthouse interiors (plant rooms). They are not accessible to publics, and are private spaces managed by the harbour commissioners.

Cumberland Council has a cultural strategy and other planning policies. The artwork was commissioned as part of www.deeptime.uk a Government funded project funded by HM Coastal Communities Fund which was commissioned by Copeland Council (now Cumberland). Cumberland council own the artwork.

Susan PHILIPPSZ, By Sound Near Seawall, 2021
Two channel sound installation from West Pier Lighthouse to North Pier Lighthouse
Whitehaven Harbour, Cumbria



5. details of the landscaping in the proposed development to consider:

- Suitability – is the ultimate size appropriate for the space the plant will have, it is important to avoid conflict with buildings. Large vigorous trees too close to structures will require expensive and regular pruning. Will the species choice be tough enough to survive the site conditions?
- Interest – Does the plant for example display any of the following features – attractive bark, flowers, interesting foliage and autumn colour? Sometimes trees which bear fruit are not suitable for heavily used areas.
- Sustainability – is there sufficient soil depth available and has irrigation and drainage been supplied where planters have been specified? Trees and plants grown in the ground will live longer and need less maintenance than those grown in planters.

Where there is subterranean development a metre depth of soil must be provided over the structure.

No landscape works are proposed. The artwork would be fixed to the building with a single sign at ground level attached either attached to the building or on the floor, or nearby. We suggest the council advises on a suitable condition for signage. See sign example in LBC documents.

6. Details of how Heritage Assets issues have been addressed:

Describe the assets affected – listed buildings, conservation area, archaeology etc.

The artwork is a discreet design, and utilises a maritime style speaker used for outdoor spaces. The West lighthouse is listed, and the work is attached to the top of the lighthouse, elevated at a great height. The second speaker is on the North lighthouse roof and is also discreet. The plan room equipment is not visible and has no impact on the look of the lighthouses. The lighthouses were recently renovated, re painted etc and the artworks were part of this project. There are some artworks in the public space at the harbour already, a miner statue at the entrance to the harbour arms and a second seat / structure on the harbour arm. A new building 'The Edge' commissioned by the Harbour Commissioners is also being built at the mouth of the harbour arm which employs a modern contemporary language.

Define their significance (in the case of buildings in conservation areas, their contribution to the character or appearance of the area).

The lighthouse building adds to the character of Whitehaven and are local landmarks. They are publicly accessible, they also speak of the area's maritime history, the rum trade and the areas links to shipping and seafaring. The artist's work of art is also based on this history of trade and seafaring, using the sound of a person blowing into a conch shell.

Assess the impact of the proposals on the heritage asset, including reference to national and local policies and guidance.

We feel the installation of the artwork would draw attention to this local landmark as part of the art programme. Cultural programmes often make use of public buildings, parks and heritage assets, such as the national trust and others organisations, which site works of art in their grounds or on buildings. Such uses can animate and draw attention to overlooked landmarks and heritage assets and enrich the publics knowledge of and understanding of our shared heritage.

If the impact is harmful to the significance of the historic asset, set out the public benefits which justify the proposal.

This artwork is not harmful to the context. It is a discreet work that is barely visible, and animates these two structures. Cumberland is in a priority area for the Arts Council and the area has a limited cultural offer, there is only one gallery/museum (the Beacon) and one theatre space. The artworks were commissioned by the council to draw publics to the west coast with a brief for artworks to be installed on the coast itself due to the funding being from HM Coastal Communities Agency.

Ends.

Aldo Rinaldi, July 2023.