

From: Pete Turner

Sent: 26 August 2023 15:37

To: Planning

Cc: Jim Monahan; Anne Clarke; David Fowler; Save Museum Street

Subject: Objection to 1 Museum Street 2023/2510/P and 2023/2510/L

I write to strongly object to the planning application above.

In my view it is not anywhere near acceptable. The new plans are ugly and do not at all fit in with the surroundings. This will alter the whole feeling of the area. I am very proud of the city where I live and enjoy welcoming visitors. But more and more the joy and beauty of the city is being eroded. This is not just a local issue as London relies very much on tourism with visitors from across the globe. And many come specifically to see and admire our history. This includes the buildings and the architecture.

The tower is still far too big and bulky, it will be over 20 metres higher than even the Travelodge hotel. Any building should be the same height or lower than the existing Travelodge. The tower will ruin views from Bedford Square, the British Museum and Drury Lane. Demolishing the old buildings within the conservation area are contrary to Camden Council's Conservation Policies. Furthermore, this application takes no account for the climate emergency statements from both the GLA and Camden Council. This proposal of demolishing a perfectly usable building is a high carbon strategy. Surely a low-carbon strategy of refurbishment is better. Pulling down and disposing of all the existing concrete and steel girders etc (probably to landfill) and bringing in new concrete, girders, and other such building materials is surely not the responsible approach. As individual consumers, We are constantly being told to re-use and recycle, why doesn't this apply to builders and developers. The wonderful and unique architecture of Bloomsbury and Covent Garden should be protected and not destroyed.

The developers plan to build 48 new homes but are destroying 18. I am not convinced the measly number of "affordable" units for local people will be the case in reality. What systems are in place to make sure this happens. And what is affordable these days.

Please listen to my heartfelt and real objections which I am sure are also felt by many many others.

Peter Turner MBE