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2023/2928/P	Cary John Martin	16/09/2023 12:30:59	SUPPRT	
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Dear Camden Council

We read with great interest the proposals by the Egypt Exploration Society for the development of their London office. This seems to us to be a terrific idea. Interest in ancient Egypt has never been greater, as the large number of visitors to the British Museum demonstrates (and where the Egyptian collection is one of the most visited part of the collection). The Egypt Exploration Society has been based in Camden for many years now, but for much of this time it has not been in a position to use its premises proactively to promote its activities beyond a rather narrow academic audience. Its plans to transform its offices into a central hub for exploring Egypt's cultural heritage is both welcome and highly desirable. It will not only strengthen the historical connections with Egyptology but just as importantly help to consolidate Britain's relationship with one of the Middle East's most important countries (and the largest). In this respect it is particularly encouraging that the plans have been welcomed by the Egyptian Ambassador.

The plans for the offices seem innovative and exciting, in particular the proposed Learning Hub, which should be attractive to children and adults alike. The Society also points out that the proposal are environmentally and economically sustainable. Excellent.

And what an opportunity for Camden to show itself as the leading centre for Egyptology in the UK. It already has the British Museum, with its amazing Egyptian collection. It has the Egyptology department in the Institute of Archaeology at University College London (one of the leading institutions in the world for archaeology and cultural heritage). And now there is the opportunity for the Egypt Exploration Society to transform itself into a proactive educational establishment for everyone interested in understanding Egypt's cultural heritage.

As Camden residents we give these plans our wholehearted support.

Kind regards

Cary Martin and Adrienn Almásy-Martin
University College London and Oxford University

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2023/2928/P	Shashi Sen	18/09/2023 09:00:18	SUPPRT	<p>I am writing in support of this application. I am both a member of the EES and a resident of Camden.</p> <p>I am sure you are aware of the enormous contribution that the EES has made over the years, and of its iconic, enduring stature in the worlds of archaeology, exploration, academic research, and preservation of precious documents of world history. Indeed the contribution of the EES extends well beyond Egyptology and is related to the remarkable position that London enjoys as a city that attracts millions of visitors through the quality and dynamism of its cultural resources and events, and public access to this. The Borough of Camden lies at the heart of this reality and we are lucky to have the EES in this borough.</p> <p>Modernising and restructuring the premises of the EES will directly support London's ongoing efforts to align its cultural treasures and facilities with the requirements of our times. Improved relevance and access for children, academics and casual visitors, together with a wide access to its remarkable resources, will significantly enhance the role of this important collection and sustain it for the foreseeable future. By increasing its capacity to handle these challenges, visitor impressions of London and its various unique treasures will surely reflect positively on both Camden and London.</p> <p>My own world and horizons have been immeasurably expanded since I became a member of this organisation. I was especially thankful for its existence during the pandemic years when its bright team, led by the energetic and hard-working, very competent Director, Carl Graves, did so many online sessions to keep us going.</p> <p>I would therefore urge you to sympathetically and expeditiously consider this application. The organisation deserves all your support.</p>
