

01 October 2024

**Planning Department
London Borough of Camden
2nd Floor, 5 Pancras Square
c/o Town Hall, Judd Street
London
WC1H 9JE**

DP9 Ltd
100 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5NQ

Registered No. 05092507

telephone 020 7004 1700
facsimile 020 7004 1790

www.dp9.co.uk

Dear Planning Department,

**BIRKBECK CENTRAL, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, MALET STREET, LONDON, WC1E 7HY
TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) (ENGLAND) (AMENDMENT)
ORDER 2021
APPLICATION FOR FULL PLANNING PERMISSION**

On behalf of our client, Birkbeck College (the 'Applicant') we hereby enclose an application to the Local Authority for full planning permission at Birkbeck Central, University of London, Malet Street, WC1E 7HY ('the Site').

Birkbeck is a member institution of the University of London and is an educational establishment based within the Borough providing higher education services from its buildings within Bloomsbury. Birkbeck's main building is located on Malet Street with its primary entrance on Torrington Square and, in recent years, it has acquired the former 'Student Central' building on Malet Street which neighbours the extension to Birkbeck's main building. Following this acquisition, this building has been subsequently rebranded as 'Birkbeck Central'. The acquirement of Birkbeck Central as part of Birkbeck's 200th anniversary celebrations signalled Birkbeck's continuing commitment to provide and expand its higher education services within the Borough. Birkbeck is now considering how best to improve its buildings and surrounding environment within its portfolio and is seeking planning permission to improve its MEP strategy as part of its wider improvement works.

Proposed Development

The written description (the 'Proposed Development') for the full planning application is noted below:

"Alterations to the rooftop and external facades of the building to facilitate the installation of plant."

The majority of the amendments sought to the Site through this application relate to the rooftop of the building and the siting of additional plant on this level. Here, it is proposed to install additional plant to connect to the air handling unit.

Minor amendments are also proposed to the western façade of the Site at second floor level. To facilitate the MEP strategy the top of 2no. windows on the western façade are proposed to be replaced with louvres to facilitate both intake and exhaust ventilation for the plant.

A detailed overview of the Proposed Development is set out within the accompanying drawings.

Assessment

Following the acquisition and subsequent rebrand of the Site, the Applicant has undertaken a review of the Site to understand how it could seek to modernise and improve the building to make it suitable as a teaching environment for the students of the university. Alongside additional works that have recently gained planning consent that have sought to improve the setting of the Site and how the building is experienced by existing and prospective students and staff, the Applicant has also considered the existing MEP strategy of the Site and has partnered with Maris Interiors who specialise in modern education space design to review the existing MEP strategy and to advise on how to update this to modern day standards.

Consideration has been given to the Bloomsbury Conservation Area, for which the Site is located. Amendments sought to the building via the Proposed Development have sought to keep amendments to a minimum and reduce the level of change to the western elevation via ensuring that the proposed louvres are of minimal scale as to not visually disrupt this elevation.

The replacement plant benefits from a long-life span and available replacement parts, ensuring the future sustainability of the site for the upcoming decades.

For the above reasons, it is therefore considered that the Proposed Development should be fully supported.

Submission Documents

In addition to this covering letter and requisite application fee, the application includes the following documents and plans:

- Completed Planning Application Forms, prepared by DP9;
- CIL Form 1, prepared by DP9;
- Site Location Plan, prepared by Maris Interiors;
- Existing and Proposed Roof Plans, prepared by Maris Interiors; and
- Existing and Proposed western elevations, prepared by Maris Interiors.

This submission has been made online via the Planning Portal.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DP9', followed by a horizontal line.

DP9 Ltd