

Application ref: 2024/5506/P
Contact: Daren Zuk
Tel: 020 7974 3368
Email: Daren.Zuk@camden.gov.uk
Date: 17 January 2025

Development Management
Regeneration and Planning
London Borough of Camden
Town Hall
Judd Street
London
WC1H 9JE

Phone: 020 7974 4444

planning@camden.gov.uk

www.camden.gov.uk/planning

Bowen Architects Ltd
Lodge Farm Barns
Skendleby
Spilsby
PE23 4QF

Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Full Planning Permission Granted

Address:

52-54 Gray's Inn Road
London
WC1X 8LT

Proposal:

Erection of 8no. balconies to rear elevation and associated replacement of windows with external doors; alterations to the ground floor front elevation along Gray's Inn Road.

Drawing Nos: (Prefix 1929) OS, EX01, EX02, EX03, EX04, EX05, EX06, EX07, EX08, EX09, EX10, EX11, PP01, PP02 rev 0, PP03 rev 0, PP04 rev A, PP05, PP06 rev A, PP07, Design and Access Statement (prepared by Bowen Architects)

The Council has considered your application and decided to grant permission subject to the following condition(s):

Condition(s) and Reason(s):

- 1 The development hereby permitted must be begun not later than the end of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: In order to comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

- 2 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:

(Prefix 1929) OS, EX01, EX02, EX03, EX04, EX05, EX06, EX07, EX08, EX09, EX10, EX11, PP01, PP02 rev 0, PP03 rev 0, PP04 rev A, PP05, PP06 rev A, PP07, Design and Access Statement (prepared by Bowen Architects)

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interest of proper planning.

- 3 All new external work shall be carried out in materials that resemble, as closely as possible, in colour and texture those of the existing building, unless otherwise specified in the approved application.

Reason: To safeguard the appearance of the premises and the character of the immediate area in accordance with the requirements of policies D1 and D2 of the London Borough of Camden Local Plan 2017.

Informative(s):

- 1 Reasons for granting permission.

The proposed works comprise erection of 8no. steel framed balconies to the rear elevation, with associated metal balustrades. A previous proposal (ref. 2024/0557/P, dated 25/09/2024) was refused on the grounds that the proposed balconies read as a bulky and incongruous structure (which included 1.8m tall privacy screens) to the detriment of the locally listed host building.

The current application is considered to have suitably addressed the previous reason for refusal by breaking up the balconies into two separate structures, reducing and reorienting the footprint to a triangle to be more subservient in massing, changing the materiality to black painted metal, and utilising matching black metal balustrades of a historic design. The proposal is therefore considered to be of an appropriate design, scale, massing, and materiality to read as a subservient and lightweight addition to the host property and allowing for sufficient amounts of the historic rear elevation to remain visible.

The replacement of rear windows with new external doors to access the balconies is considered a minor alteration that will preserve the historic character of the locally listed host building and the wider area. The new external doors will be timber framed and of a matching design, which is considered appropriate for use on the historic building.

The changes to the ground floor shopfront which includes the addition of new doors, is acceptable as the design would be in keeping with other shopfronts in the surrounding environment. The proposed doors would be of the same height and a similar design to the existing doors along this elevation.

Overall, the works are considered acceptable in design, scale, and materiality, and will not materially impact the character or setting of the locally listed host building.

The balconies have been sensitively designed to minimise privacy and overlooking impacts from the balconies into neighbouring units. This has been

achieved including a separation between balconies at each level. Given the siting of the building and the proposed balconies, it is not anticipated that they will result in a negative impact on any other neighbouring residential occupier with regards to loss of daylight/sunlight, outlook, or privacy.

No objections were received following statutory consultation. The planning history of the site has been taken into account when coming to this decision.

As such, the proposal is in general accordance with Policies A1, D1, D3 and D2 of the Camden Local Plan 2017. The proposed development also accords with the policies of the London Plan 2021 and National Planning Policy Framework 2024.

- 2 Your proposals may be subject to control under the Building Regulations and/or the London Buildings Acts that cover aspects including fire and emergency escape, access and facilities for people with disabilities and sound insulation between dwellings. You are advised to consult the Council's Building Control Service, Camden Town Hall, Judd St, Kings Cross, London NW1 2QS (tel: 020-7974 6941).
- 3 This approval does not authorise the use of the public highway. Any requirement to use the public highway, such as for hoardings, temporary road closures and suspension of parking bays, will be subject to approval of relevant licence from the Council's Streetworks Authorisations & Compliance Team, 5 Pancras Square c/o Town Hall, Judd Street London WC1H 9JE (Tel. No 020 7974 4444). Licences and authorisations need to be sought in advance of proposed works. Where development is subject to a Construction Management Plan (through a requirement in a S106 agreement), no licence or authorisation will be granted until the Construction Management Plan is approved by the Council.
- 4 All works should be conducted in accordance with the Camden Minimum Requirements - a copy is available on the Council's website (search for 'Camden Minimum Requirements' at www.camden.gov.uk) or contact the Council's Noise and Licensing Enforcement Team, 5 Pancras Square c/o Town Hall, Judd Street London WC1H 9JE (Tel. No. 020 7974 4444)

Noise from demolition and construction works is subject to control under the Control of Pollution Act 1974. You must carry out any building works that can be heard at the boundary of the site only between 08.00 and 18.00 hours Monday to Friday and 08.00 to 13.00 on Saturday and not at all on Sundays and Public Holidays. You must secure the approval of the Council's Noise and Licensing Enforcement Team prior to undertaking such activities outside these hours.

- 5 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Informative (1/2):

The effect of paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 ("1990 Act") is that planning permission granted in England is subject to the condition ("the biodiversity gain condition") that development may not begin unless:

- (a) a Biodiversity Gain Plan has been submitted to the planning authority, and
- (b) the planning authority has approved the plan.

The local planning authority (LPA) that would approve any Biodiversity Gain Plan (BGP) (if required) is London Borough of Camden.

There are statutory exemptions and transitional arrangements which mean that the biodiversity gain condition does not always apply. These are summarised below, but you should check the legislation yourself and ensure you meet the statutory requirements.

Based on the information provided, this will not require the approval of a BGP before development is begun because it is below the de minimis threshold (because it does not impact an onsite priority habitat AND impacts less than 25 square metres of onsite habitat with biodiversity value greater than zero and less than 5 metres in length of onsite linear habitat).

++ Summary of transitional arrangements and exemptions for biodiversity gain condition

The following are provided for information and may not apply to this permission:

1. The planning application was made before 12 February 2024.
2. The planning permission is retrospective.
3. The planning permission was granted under section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the original (parent) planning permission was made or granted before 12 February 2024.
4. The permission is exempt because of one or more of the reasons below:
 - It is not “major development” and the application was made or granted before 2 April 2024, or planning permission is granted under section 73 and the original (parent) permission was made or granted before 2 April 2024.
 - It is below the de minimis threshold (because it does not impact an onsite priority habitat AND impacts less than 25 square metres of onsite habitat with biodiversity value greater than zero and less than 5 metres in length of onsite linear habitat).
 - The application is a Householder Application.
 - It is for development of a “Biodiversity Gain Site”.
 - It is Self and Custom Build Development (for no more than 9 dwellings on a site no larger than 0.5 hectares and consists exclusively of dwellings which are Self-Build or Custom Housebuilding).
 - It forms part of, or is ancillary to, the high-speed railway transport network (High Speed 2).

6 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Informative (2/2):

+ Irreplaceable habitat:

If the onsite habitat includes Irreplaceable Habitat (within the meaning of the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024) there are additional requirements. In addition to information about minimising adverse impacts on the habitat, the BGP must include information on compensation for any impact on the biodiversity of the irreplaceable habitat.

The LPA can only approve a BGP if satisfied that the impact on the irreplaceable habitat is minimised and appropriate arrangements have been made for compensating for any impact which do not include the use of biodiversity credits.

++ The effect of section 73(2D) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990
If planning permission is granted under section 73, and a BGP was approved in relation to the previous planning permission (“the earlier BGP”), the earlier BGP may be regarded as approved for the purpose of discharging the biodiversity gain condition on this permission. It will be regarded as approved if the conditions attached (and so the permission granted) do not affect both the post-development value of the onsite habitat and any arrangements made to compensate irreplaceable habitat as specified in the earlier BGP.

++ Phased development

In the case of phased development, the BGP will be required to be submitted to and approved by the LPA before development can begin (the overall plan), and before each phase of development can begin (phase plans). The modifications in respect of the biodiversity gain condition in phased development are set out in Part 2 of the Biodiversity Gain (Town and Country Planning) (Modifications and Amendments) (England) Regulations 2024.

In dealing with the application, the Council has sought to work with the applicant in a positive and proactive way in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework. The council publishes its adopted policies online, along with detailed Camden Planning Guidance. It also provides advice on the website for submitting applications and offers a pre-application advice service.

You can find advice about your rights of appeal at:

<https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-decision>.

If you submit an appeal against this decision you are now eligible to use the new [submission form](#) (Before you start - Appeal a planning decision - GOV.UK).

Yours faithfully



Daniel Pope
Chief Planning Officer