

Application ref: 2025/0694/P  
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Date: 14 April 2025

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Montagu Evans  
70 St Mary Axe  
London  
EC3A 8BE  
United Kingdom

Dear Sir/Madam

## **DECISION**

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

### **Approval of Details Granted**

Address:  
**British Museum**  
**Great Russell Street**  
**London**  
**WC1B 3DG**

Proposal:  
Details of lighting required by condition 18 of planning permission 2023/1848/P dated 17/07/2024 for 'Erection of new two storey building, plus basement and associated works to provide plant and welfare accommodation ancillary to the Museum following demolition of existing building and two storey structures on East Road (to the rear of 9-11 Montague Street and 43 Russell Square)'.

Drawing Nos:  
Covering letter prepared by Montague Evans dated 19/01/2025; East Road Building Lighting Assessment prepared by Steensen Varming dated 17/03/2023.

The Council has considered your application and decided to grant permission.

Informative(s):

#### **1 Reasons for granting approval of details:-**

Details of the lighting required by condition 18 of planning permission 2023/1848/P have been submitted. The lighting assessment confirms that lighting would be installed within the generator room (1st floor) and the western

façade of the new East Road Building which will accommodate mechanical and electrical plant as well as maintenance facilities and offices for support staff. Five wall mounted luminaires (downward lighting) would be installed at ground floor level in front of the transformer room for night-time maintenance activity, and 2 low-glare downlighters would be installed in from the locksmith's workshop for evening access in the winter months. Downlighting would be installed to the main entrance and lighting would also be installed to provide illumination in the generator room for maintenance work during darker hours.

The external lighting assessment outlines the proposed external lighting scheme and the measures to limit light spill with all luminaires to illuminate the areas within the building and outside areas with downward beams and equipped with top shields to reduce skyglow. The impact of the lighting has been modelled using specialist software and the closest neighbouring property 8-10 Montague Street, which includes offices, would experience an average light spill of less than 1 lux from the external lighting. The light impact meets the thresholds recommended by the Institute of Lighting Professionals. The lighting has been designed to ensure that the illumination levels to the public realm areas and surrounding pathways of the development would meet the required lighting levels for safety and security, whilst minimising impacts on neighbouring amenity. The new external lighting would deliver 15 lux on the East Road (internal access road within the Museum site). This would meet the required illumination levels stated within BS 5489-1:2020.

The Lighting Assessment indicates that the proposed lighting scheme has been development in accordance with the guidelines set out in the ILP Guidance Note GN08:2018 "Bats and Artificial Lighting". Chosen measures include the use of LED luminaires to minimise UV light emissions, the adoption of a warm white light spectrum which minimises blue light; and the selection of luminaires with a peak wavelength greater than 550 nm (below 3000K) which minimises the negative impacts of artificial light. These measures are considered to mitigate any potential impact or disturbance to local bat populations.

All of the luminaires which form part of the external lighting would use energy efficient LED modules with focused beam or shields to reduce light spill outside of the lit area. Details of maintenance access have been provided. All luminaires on the west elevation would be controlled via an astronomical time clock and / or a daylight sensor switch on 1 hour after sunset and automatically switching off at 23:00. The first floor generator room lighting would be activated by passive infrared sensors which would ensure that lighting is only used when access is required or during maintenance activities.

The information has been reviewed and the details are considered satisfactory and in accordance with the requirements set out in the condition wording. The condition can therefore be discharged.

The planning and appeal history of the site has been taken into account when coming to this decision.

The submitted details are consistent with the general expectations of the approved scheme and are acceptable in all other respects. The full impact of

the proposed development has already been assessed as part of application 2023/1848/P dated 17/07/2024.

As such, the proposed details are in general accordance with policies A1, A2, A3, and C5 of the London Borough of Camden Local Plan 2017.

- 2 You are reminded that conditions 4c, 6, 10, and 13 of planning permission granted on 17/07/2024 (ref 2023/1848/P) are outstanding and require details to be submitted and approved.

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:

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/appeals/guidance/guidancecontent>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DPope', is positioned above the printed name and title of the signatory.

Daniel Pope  
Chief Planning Officer