

## **Design & access statement**

The Renovations and minor alterations to parts of the Atrium between the Edwardian Building and the Modern Arts Block at Hampstead Town Hall are necessary. to accommodate two classes of 4-5 year old children at Hampstead Town Hall this autumn, we need to carry out the following works:

The provision of these classes will provide much needed income to help the Trust to maintain this Grade 2 Listed Building to the required standard, which is owned by the London Borough of Camden and leased by the Hamden Trust.

Access will be improved for both these children and the other people and organisations already using the building and its facilities

The only alteration works to be carried out within the Edwardian Block on Level 1 is the reinstatement of a door and frame between the Room 135 and Room 134 which was blocked up during the Restoration and Renovation contract completed in 2001 and funded by the ARTS Council of England Lottery Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund. (See attached Drawing showing elevation of wall between Room 135 and Room 134).

To form a safe secure Play area for 4 and 5 year olds , it is necessary to erect 1800 mm high close-boarded treated timber fence with timber gravel board between rear wall of atrium and existing fence to rear of car park (including crossing the existing flower bed) incorporating 900 mm access gate in close board style and fitted with stainless steel ball bearing hinges and an “easy opening” lock system opening towards car-park as means of escape in case of fire, using suitable security/fire-escape ironmongery and matching 1800 mm high close-boarded treated timber fence as described above between Edwardian Building and existing rear fence incorporating 900 mm access gate including necessary ironmongery to allow for security locking, as shown on attached External Layout Plan.

Extend existing parking area to accommodate two Mini-buses provided by Variety Club of Great Britain and Lords’ Taverners for use by disabled and other young people using the WAC Arts facilities in Hampstead Town Hall by use of grasscrete to maintain existing green area at rear of car park as shown on attached drawing and plant 3 New Flowering Cherries in existing border in front of rear fence. This will ensure safe access to these vehicles for both disabled and able bodied children.

Work being carried out in the Atrium between the Edwardian Building and the Modern Arts Block consists of:

The renovation of existing DDA toilets and Male and Female Toilets off the Atrium constructed as part of the modern Arts Block for use by the children referred to above.

The replacement of existing large painted badly fitting solid wooden double doors at the rear of the Atrium with new painted wooden screen with side frames and new draft stripped double doors with obscured safety glass double glazed panels to provide a better means of escape in case of fire, providing better thermal insulation and natural light to this end to the Atrium.

The installation of sliding folding sound reducing partition with pass door to provide proper means of escape in case of fire, to segregate the 4 and 5 year olds from the other users of the Town Hall who have an age range of 10 -90 years. To avoid any load or connection to the atrium elevation of the Grade 2 listed Edwardian Building, this partition will be supported by an RHS goal post steel frame. When opened, the panels will stack against the modern Arts Block, thus not obscuring the Edwardian Elevation. It will also provide more flexible use of the Atrium.

The existing aluminium framed single glazed doors to the curtain walling front elevation of the Atrium are to be replaced with similar appearance but double safety glazed panels, draught stripped to make this entrance area much warmer and reduce the effect of draughts in this entrance.

None of this work will detract from the restoration and renovation work carried out and completed in 2000, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Arts Council Lottery Fund and should improve safe and attractive access to the building.