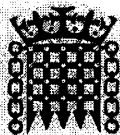


From: The Rt. Hon. Frank Dobson, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

RECEIVED 18 MAY 2005

Liz Forgan,  
Heritage Lottery Fund,  
7 Holbein Place,  
LONDON SW1W 8NR

21 June 2005

Dear Liz Forgan,

The Jewish Museum

In 2003, The Jewish Museum applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant towards the consolidation on one site in my constituency of the two collections split between the Albert Street site and the one in Finchley. Unfortunately, owing to the many competing applications, the Heritage Lottery Fund were unable to respond favourably at that time. I understand that the Museum is submitting a new but related application and I write again in support of the application.

As I emphasised in 2003, the collections illustrate the baleful effects of religious and racial oppression and discrimination. They also uplift all who see them by demonstrating the triumph of the human spirit over adversity. The recent special exhibition *"Closing the Door? Immigrants to Britain 1905-2005"* covered not just the Jewish experience but the prejudice stirred up, and the discrimination practised, against successive groups of people fleeing from oppression. So the significance of the Museum goes much wider than the Jewish community and its continuing efforts are a salutary reminder of what wrongs are committed against outsiders from all sources. In short, the Museum, while logging history, has an immediate and contemporary relevance and impact.

The proposed amalgamation of the collections on one site will add to that impact by enabling more special efforts aimed at schoolchildren and students, together with greater space for exhibitions and to keep more valuable and interesting exhibits on show.

I hope the Museum's application will be successful this time.

Yours sincerely,