

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2015/7220/P	Debbie Radcliffe (BCAAC)	91 Judd Street London WC1H 9NE	16/02/2016 18:45:13	OBJ	<p>The Bloomsbury Conservation Area Advisory Committee objects to the installation of telecommunications equipment on the roof of the Generator Hostel (Macnaghten House).</p> <p>Planning Application 2015/7220/P gives NO details whatsoever of the equipment to be installed, other than stating this will be: 9no. antennas within GRP shrouding on the roof of the plant room with 3x 300mm dishes and 3x RRUs and 5x equipment cabinets mounted on steel grill at rooftop level. There is no illustration of the design of the equipment, nor any information on the proposed impact of the 9 antennas on the skyline and views from the Conservation Area.</p> <p>The Generator Hostel (Macnaghten House) is designated a ‘Positive Contributor ‘ and lies within The Bloomsbury Conservation Area (Sub Area 12: Coram’s Fields/Brunswick Centre). As Camden’s document “Bloomsbury Conservation Area Appraisal and management Strategy” admits: “Prominent external telecommunications apparatus, including cable runs, can harm the appearance of an historic building.”</p> <p>As well as impacting on neighbouring residential amenity (DP 26) the proposed installation of antennas and satellite dishes will cause harm due to its visual intrusion on the streetscape, its negative impact on the skyline and its relationship to the Conservation Area (DP 25).</p> <p>The location and height of the Generator Hostel means that the 9 antennae are likely to be clearly visible from a number of surrounding locations, including Leigh Street, which retains its terrace of Grade II listed buildings. To quote from DP 25 “The setting of a listed building is of great importance and should not be harmed by unsympathetic neighbouring development.”</p> <p>Camden’s planning policies aim to protect and enhance the built environment and ensure the preservation of the Borough’s rich historic and architectural heritage. The proposed telecommunication equipment will not achieve a high standard of design nor enhance the existing townscape and antennae and satellite dishes are prohibited on other structures in the neighbourhood.</p> <p>Although the application is identified merely as “Commercial Minor Alterations”, the installation of a significant amount of telecommunication equipment on the roof of the Generator Hotel will cause harm to the Bloomsbury Conservation Area and should be refused.</p>