

From:

Macgregor, Andrea [Andrea Macgregor@marks-and-spencer.com]

Sent:

27 April 2010 15:52

To:

Sexton, Gavin

Cc:

Env DC Mail - PF

Subject: Application Ref: 2009/3719/P - 159 - 165 Camden High Street London NW1 7JY - Objection

Letter

Dear Mr. Sexton,

Application Ref: 2009/3719/P

Site Address: 159 - 165 Camden High Street London NW1 7JY

In relation to the amendments proposed for the application at the above address Marks and Spencer Plc wishes to objection to certain aspects of the application.

We note that no information has been submitted with this application, in relation to Condition 7 which related to increasing the footway directly in front of the application site on Camden High Street. We view this as an integral part to this application, as the pedestrian movement is very high along the High Street. If 462 square meters of new retail trading space is to be added, then it is crucial that the already oversubscribed pathway is widened before occupation of the retail unit, as from the new spec of the store it is more likely to attract a larger retailer than what was sited there previously and therefore this would lead to a likely increase in the current pedestrian footfall.

In relation to the details submitted to discharge Condition 4, there is no mention of how the waste from the retail unit shall be disposed of and drawing number P10A does not seem to illustrate any specific area for the storage of waste. I would suggest given that the space around this site is soo limited that details of this are procured prior to the retail units occupation, it is alarming that this did not even appear to be a consideration in the Officer's Report whilst assessing the original development (2006/0776/P).

Further developing this point, it would not be convenient for refuse vehicles to be stored at the rear of the property as this car park is owned by Marks and Spencer Plc and is therefore operational during day time hours and so refuse vehicles would not therefore be able to access the car park during this time. In addition to that the applicant has no right of access to the car park area.

We note in the s106 agreement, dated 16 May 2006, in paragraph 4.3 'Service Management Plan' that, on or prior to the implementation of the development, a service management plan should be submitted and approved by the Council. To date we are not aware that this has been submitted and approved. In addition to that request for information, paragraph 6.23 of Planning Officer Thomas Smith's report on the original application (2006/0776/P) states, in relation to the servicing management plan, that "all deliveries to the site to be made via Underhill Street rather than Camden High Street given the limited amount of loading space and the disruption to pedestrians that would otherwise be caused".

It should be brought to the Planners attention that Marks and Spencer Plc has previously liaised with Camden Council on the use of Underhill Street for deliveries, as issues were brought to our attention by Mr. Elliott Della, a Senior Engineer in the Traffic Engineering Team of your Council. Marks and Spencer as a result of this, moved delivery schedules to accommodate neighbours and also worked to alleviate access issues into Underhill Street and therefore, by proposing other vehicles to use this street for deliveries for the new retail unit would be wholly impractical, despite the fact that a servicing management plan has been requested, as the lane is already oversubscribed with the companies that currently access it.

In addition to this, vehicles delivering to the retail unit, would be parked at the end of the lane will block access into / out of the car park. The vehicles would also be unable to access the car park to turn as they have no right of access.

It would appear that the practicalities of the servicing arrangements have not been thoroughly thought

through. Whilst M&S were working with the Council in 2007, it was proposed that loading bays should be created to the front of our store and that waiting times should be introduced, instead of Red Bus Routes to alleviate the concerns on Underhill Street and volumes of traffic at the rear of the store. It appears that the Council and Councillors never progressed this, but perhaps this issue to be revisited prior to approval.

I trust that you will consider these points in relation to the application, to avert any future issues. A hard copy of this letter follows.

Yours sincerely

Andrea MacGregor
Town Planner Marks and Spencer plc
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27/04/2010

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