

Planning - Development Control Camden Council Camden Town Hall London WC1H 8ND

09 June 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

LISTED BUILDING CONSENT THE BRITISH LIBRARY, 96 EUSTON ROAD, LONDON, NW1 2DB

A Listed Building Consent application has been prepared and submitted via the planning portal (Reference: PP-06109105) on behalf of The British Library. The application seeks for Listed Building Consent under the planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, at The British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB for the following:

External works to the Conference Centre, comprising the erection of 1no. poster cabinet

The Applicant has acknowledged that The British Library is Grade I listed, in accordance with Historic England's listing records, so has therefore cautiously considered national and local planning policy and selected the location and design of the poster cabinet, to ensure no substantial harm is caused to the character and setting of the building.

Consultation

Given the nature of the building, the Applicant has engaged in discussions with Claire Brady from Historic England and the London Borough of Camden's Conservation Officer, Catherine Bond, to ascertain the acceptability of the proposal. The consultees have agreed that the location is appropriate for wayfinding and advised that only Listed Building Consent is required for the proposal.

Heritage Statement

The proposed development is compliant with both National and Local Planning Policy, as set out below.

Section 12 of the NPPF (2012) sets out the approach to be taken for the consideration of Listed Buildings, of particular relevance are Paragraphs 132 and 133 which seek to protect heritage assets (inclusive of Grade I listed buildings) by resisting the approval of planning applications which will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of an asset. In line with these requirements, substantial weight has been given to the conservation of The British Library and it is considered that this minor application will have no substantial impact on or loss of the significance of the heritage asset.

Core Strategy Policy CS14 (Promoting High Quality Places and Conserving Our Heritage), Development Policy DP25 (Conserving Camden's Heritage) (both adopted in, November 2010) and Policy D2 (Heritage and Conservation) of Camden's New Local Plan (anticipated for formal adoption on 26 June 2017) seek to preserve and enhance Camden's heritage assets and their settings. In accordance with the policy requirements, this proposal does not result in the loss, or substantial harm to the designated heritage asset, affect the preservation and will not harm the special architecture, historic interest or setting of the listed building.

The exterior wall where the poster cabinet will be erected has a frontage to the library's piazza and is not visible from the public footpath or highway. In addition, the series of piers around the exterior of the building assist with obstructing visibility of the poster cabinet from within the piazza itself. Given this setting, it is clear that no substantial harm will be caused to the wider setting and character of the listed building. The location is therefore considered the most appropriate for wayfinding.

The existing site plan (Drawing No. BL/0000/788/03 Sh 1) and Photograph 1 enclosed, show metal 'Conference Centre' lettering in place on this frontage of the building. To avoid and minimise the likelihood of any adverse impacts on the significance on the asset, the existing sign will remain as it is and the proposed poster cabinet will be fixed to the wall around the sign, as shown on the proposed plan submitted with this application (Drawing No. BL/0000/788/03 Sh 2). No direct contact will made with the existing 'Conference Centre' lettering, to ensure that no harm is caused.

Schedule of works

As identified on the site plan (Drawing No. BL/0000/200/SP/A3/01) the poster cabinet will be installed using concealed fixings into the mortar joints of the granite cladding onto the exterior of the Conference Centre, which adjoins the main building. The poster cabinet will not be overbearing on the exterior wall and will be constructed from powder coated aluminium sections and panels which complement the existing materials on this façade of the building (Photograph 1, enclosed).

Given the minor works required to erect the poster cabinet, there are considered to be no structural concerns associated with the proposal.

Listed Building Consent Validation Requirements

In accordance with Camden Council's validation requirements, the following documents have been submitted in support of the application:

- Site Location Plan (Drawing No. BL/0000/200/SP/A3/01)
- Existing Plan, including plan, sections and elevations (Drawing No. BL/0000/788/03 Sh 1)
- Proposed Plan, including plan, sections and elevations (Drawing No. BL/0000/788/03 Sh 2)
- Photograph (enclosed)
- Heritage Statement (included within this covering letter)
- Schedule of Works (included within this covering letter)

In respect of the planning application fee, no payment is required for Listed Building Consent applications.

I trust that the enclosed information is sufficient for the application to be promptly validated. However, should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Ruby Wilkinson, at the above office

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Photograph 1: The current frontage at the location where the poster cabinet will be erected.

