

## **Hampstead Telephone Exchange, 261 Finchley Road, London NW3 6EX**

### **Planning, Design & Access Statement**

**Our Ref: 212-2202-91**

#### **1 Introduction**

Due to the installation of British Telecom's new 21st century communications network system, also the uptake of broadband and the installation of other licensed operator's telecommunications equipment within telephone exchanges, BT are looking to improve cooling and ventilation at the above premises, and all of BT's Telephone exchange premises. The new cooling equipment will also be highly efficient and will meet current requirements for energy savings and provide a significant carbon reduction across the portfolio.

#### **2 Proposed Works**

Removal of 2 Nr. existing Air Handling Units within the first floor and replacement with 2 Nr. Adiabatic cooling units. Installation requires 3 Nr. additional louvres to be installed within existing window openings on the first floor. The proposal is to install louvres as following:

1 Nr. to the North West Elevation

1 Nr. to South West Elevation

1 Nr. to the South East Elevation

#### **3 Significance and Impact**

The replacement of the window panes with the louvres is the only external work to be undertaken. The louvres will match those already installed to other elevations of the building.

The site will not be developed or enlarged in anyway. The use of the floor space will not change, it will continue to house telecommunications equipment.

The appearance of the building will not significantly change. The building is industrial with existing louvres present.

The removal of the existing, dated, Air Handling Units will reduce the overall noise impact with the new equipment quieter and less polluting. Inlet louvres and exhaust louvres will also incorporate acoustic plenums to minimise noise breakout.

The proposed adiabatic cooling will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of the building. For a typical telephone exchange of 100KW, the currently installed cooling equipment adds approximately 235 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> to the environment per annum. The CO<sub>2</sub> from the Adiabatic cooling is significantly less at 17 tonnes per annum. The adiabatic cooling will also significantly reduce the burden on the national grid.

There will be no changes to any landscaping on the site. There will be no changes to the existing access arrangements of this building either during the works or following completion of the works.

We are of the opinion the proposed works will have minimal impact.

Fig 01 – South East Elevation



Proposed  
new louvre  
within bottom  
9 panes of  
the existing  
window

**Fig 02 – North West Elevation**



Proposed new  
louvre in full  
window opening

Re-use existing  
louvre

Note: No suitable photographs feasible for South West due to access restrictions. Refer to drawings.