

The Academy Hotel, Bloomsbury

Tea House

Design and Access Statement

Application for the erection of a prefabricated, timber building in the rear courtyard of The Academy Hotel at number 17 Gower Street, Bloomsbury, London

1. Existing Site

The existing site is a 50 bed hotel which occupies five adjoining Georgian townhouses in the heart of Bloomsbury, London. The hotel currently has two walled gardens located to the rear of nrs 17 and 23 which are used as guest amenity space.

The garden to the rear of 23 adjoins the bar and is used for drinks and guest entertainment. The garden to the rear of nr 17 is relatively small and The Academy Hotel would like to use this space to provide an amenity for hotel guests and local residence in the form of a Tea House that could be utilised as a spa facility.

2. Access

The new facility will be accessed through the main reception located at front of the Hotel at Nr 21 Gower Street which is manned on a 24/7. The Spa will be on operated an appointment basis only with all guest checking into the facility prior to their treatment.

3. Details / size of the proposed facility

The proposed structure is a high quality, prefabricated building constructed from hardwood timber and finished with an ornate leadwork roof and glazed windows to the front elevation facing the rear of The Academy Hotel. Internally the building will be finished with emulsion painted walls with a solid timber floor.

The building measures 4.40 wide x 2.45m deep with a ridge height of 4.03m and is set at ground level to provide unhindered access for its guests

4. Heritage Matters

The building is being erected on the existing paving slabs to the rear of the existing property. Care has been taken to ensure that the traditional design and natural materials match the character of the surrounding properties in the vicinity of the site.

Consideration has been given to the height of the structure and the building has been set at ground level to minimise its overall impact and to ensure that it does not protrude above the surrounding brickwork wall. The building has been orientated to ensure that it does not overlook any of the surrounding properties.