

MINISTRY OF HOUSING & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
WHITEHALL, LONDON, SW1

Any reply to this letter should be addressed

to THE SECRETARY quoting Reference

676/40621/152

Your reference CL/T



Telegrams: Locaplan, Parl. London

Telex: 22801

Telephone: Victoria 8540

Extension.....

7th August 1959


Sir,

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947
Town and Country Planning (Development Plans) Direction, 1954
Application relating to a site bounded by Euston Road,
Hampstead Road, Drummond Street and Longford Street, St. Pancras

1. I am directed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government to refer to your letter of 25th March, 1959, with which you enclosed an application dated 15th December, 1958, made on behalf of Bewdley House Ltd. for permission to develop the above site by the erection of shops, showrooms and offices, and to your letter of 8th July, 1959, with which you enclosed a revised layout plan (drawing No.125), which the applicants wished to substitute for the drawing No.124 submitted with the said application.
2. I am to say that the Minister considers that the said revised plan shows an improvement on the layout originally submitted and he notes that it meets one of the objections to the scheme raised by the Royal Fine Art Commission. He notes also that the Crown Estate Commissioners have been consulted on the revised proposals and are satisfied that they will not have any adverse effect on the Nash Terraces.
3. The Minister has consulted the Minister of Works who has informed him that, whilst he has no objection to the two tall blocks in the positions proposed, he regards the design of buildings of this height as being of importance from the point of view of the effect on the Park. I am, therefore, to ask that the Minister of Works should be consulted on the designs for these blocks before final approval is given.
4. The Minister has considered the notice of objection lodged by Messrs. Finch, Turner & Tayler, on behalf of Leonard Hill Ltd., the freeholders of 8 and 9 Eden Street, N.W.1., conveyed in their letter of 21st July, of which a copy was sent to the council. He understands that their clients' concern is (a) that the continuation of the present use of their premises and the occupation of their site by them will not be affected, and (b) that they will have a full opportunity to state their views on any land transactions affecting their interest resulting from the road proposals. In the Minister's view these matters would in no way be prejudiced by the giving of planning permission on the present application, but in any case he does not think that such questions properly fall to him to consider, since the council's reference to him arose solely from the proposed change of use, from the light industrial zoning in the development plan to predominantly other use. The Minister has so informed Messrs. Finch, Turner & Tayler.
5. The Minister has decided that he should now authorise your council to grant permission in outline on the said application. I am to add that his consideration of the matter has not extended to the form of permission which should be granted but to say that he thinks that consideration should be given to the adequacy of provision for pedestrians along the pavement at the foot of Block B.
6. A copy of any permission which is granted should be sent to the Minister for information.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,


A. E. HICKINBOTHAM

Authorised by the Minister
to sign in that behalf

The Clerk of the London County Council,
County Hall,
London, S.E.1.