

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2020/4825/P	Cathy Low	25/11/2020 14:57:15	SUPPRT	Re: Planning application 2020/4825/P

I am writing on behalf of London Vision to express our support for the above-mentioned planning application.

London Vision is a registered sight loss charity based in Euston but operating pan London. Our vision is a society and a capital city where blind and partially sighted people can participate fully. Our organisation is based on the lived experience of blind and partially sighted people in London and those who are at risk of losing their sight. We therefore have a unique perspective on the challenges and needs of our community, many of whom are patients of Moorfields Eye Hospital.

We are writing to express support for the partial redevelopment proposals for the part of the St Pancras Hospital site in the Camley Street area. The detailed proposals are as set out in planning application number 2020/4825/P.

The development, which is put forward by a partnership between Moorfields Hospital, Moorfields Eye Charity and University College London Institute of Ophthalmology, will see the construction of a new shared home that will enable the partners to deliver high quality clinical, research and education outcomes. The new facility will offer an enhanced experience for patients and staff and help to improve the pace of the development of new research and treatments.

As you would expect, these are very important benefits for people living with sight loss both in London and beyond. Moorfields Eye Hospital has been a world leader in medical research, training and eyecare for 200 years and we are delighted to see these proposals brought forward to build on their record and that of their partners.

London is a city of nearly 9 million people, approximately 208,000 of whom are affected by blindness, partial sight or low vision - equivalent to the average population of a London borough. This figure is set to rise as London grows and the population ages. The current site at City Road is outdated, over capacity and challenging for blind and partially sighted patients to attend. A new modern first-class Eye hospital is therefore essential to meet London's growing need.

The partners have carried out extensive engagement and consultation to hear the views of people affected by sight loss, including people from BAME communities and those with additional needs. The opportunity to deliver better outcomes for this community through the provision of new, high quality, accessible eye health facilities cannot be under-estimated.

We would urge the London Borough of Camden to consider carefully the evidence submitted in support of the application, including reflecting that the proposed development meets national, strategic and local planning policy priorities to deliver a quality mixed-use development.

Cathy Low
Chief Executive
London Vision