

<b>Application No:</b>	<b>Consultees Name:</b>	<b>Received:</b>	<b>Comment:</b>	<b>Response:</b>
2022/1041/P	Simon Bennett	25/04/2022 16:32:09	OBJ	<p>I am objecting to the design of the building as a user of the existing British Library, as the design takes no account of the needs of people who suffer from a fear of heights. While I do not normally consider myself disabled, a building like this disables me, as its design means that I am unable to access certain spaces or progress through the building in the same way as other users. The proposed Foyer in particular is a nightmare for users like me. The illustrations on pages 58 and 64 in Chapter 5.0 of the Design and Access Statement show rooms above ground and first floor level with floor-to-ceiling glass and walkways that cross open space that are completely exposed on both sides with floor-to-ceiling glass. I would not be able to approach the spaces near the glass walls or use these walkways.</p> <p>The Access Statement in Chapter 19.0, Section 2.4 makes reference to users with phobias including a fear of heights, sometimes known as acrophobia. However, there is then no attempt to explain how the needs of these users have been met. As they may represent between 2% and 5% of the population, the design of this building is creating barriers to equitable access for this group.</p>

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