

Nextgen Real Estate 43 St John Street Clerkenwell London EC1M 4AN

SENT VIA EMAIL: Gil Levy gil@elleric.com

<u>21<sup>st</sup> June 2022</u>

RE: Marketing report, Lupin House 11-13 Macklin Street London WC2B 5NH

Dear Gil,

This letter seeks to outline the marketing efforts at the above property report the feedback obtained from the numerous inspections undertaken.

## **Background:**

Nextgen Real Estate have been actively advising the freeholders of the premises since October 2018 and marketing commenced in May 2019 and continue to do so. It was decided that we would brand the property alongside our partner lettings agency – Sub800 which is better placed at obtaining occupiers for this type of property. The disposal efforts have been led by partner Jake Pater, lettings Director Effi Grussgott and 2 further lettings agents.

The vacant space was professionally cleaned, cleared, and refurbished to a light standard. This included painting of the common areas and vacant space, new lighting, and general 'making good' wherever possible. We advised that the rent would need to be extremely low to attract office tenants to the property given the condition and specification.

The specification is very limited. The offices are reliant upon perimeter trunking and is not equipped for high-speed internet. It is heated via central heating and does not have any form of air conditioning or comfort cooling. We tried to portray a warehouse / period feel, however it does not really benefit any quirky original features that some tenants might appreciate. We were told that the service lift is not operable & that it should not be used. This made the prospect of letting the upper floors very difficult.

The typical occupiers for this type of space within the locality has shifted to a preference for serviced / coworking style on more flexible terms than the traditional leasing model. By using Sub800 we attempted to reach this market & also the traditional leasing model. We quoted a rent reflecting  $\pounds_{30}$  Per Sq Ft and offered the space on a fully flexible model. This allowed the tenants the opportunity to determine their own lease length at a discounted price.

From our experience we would typically expect to achieve renting space and minimizing voids within a 3-6-month period for similar quality stock priced competitively.



Please note the quoting rents at the time of instruction on the following office schemes:

8-14 Macklin Street - £65 Per Sq Ft Macklin Street -£75 Per Sq Ft 15 Stukeley St - £59.50 Per Sq Ft 20-22 Stukeley St - £72.50 Per Sq Ft

To contextualise this within the current market conditions; take up across the core West End markets in Q1 2022 continued along a similar vein to the previous year, with activity running 12% below the 10 year average at 567,900 sq ft in 156 transactions.

The largest transaction in the core West End markets in Q1 2022, was the 37,566 sq ft letting to Blackstone at Berkeley Square House and indicated the continued trend for occupiers targeting better quality space. There were a total of five transactions above 20,000 sq ft across the core West End markets in Q1 2022, accounting for just under 20% of total take up. Grade A take up accounted for 60%, slightly below the figure in the previous 12 months.

Demand has continued to strengthen in Q1 2022, rising by 13.6% over the quarter to 5.04m sq ft. The major change in demand has been the increase in requirements for suites below 10,000 sq ft, which is up by 33%, whilst larger requirements (>10,000 sq ft) are down by 2%. Companies in the creative and finance sectors continue to dominate demand.

Supply fell to 3.1m sq ft in Q1 2022 from the peak level of 3.6m sq ft in Q2 2021. The main reduction in supply has been in Grade A space, which has fallen by 625,750 sq ft to 1.3m sq ft, whilst the availability of un refurbished stock has increased by almost 250,000 sq ft. The availability rate across the core West End markets is now down to 6.1%, just above the 10 year average availability rate (6.0%).

Prime rents rebounded strongly across most West End sub markets in Q1 2022, rising by 5.3% on average in the quarter and are now 12.3% higher than the same quarter last year.

Take up in Covent Garden has remained below trend rates since the pandemic but Q1 2022 showed the first signs that activity may be strengthening. Total take up in the first quarter was 75,080 sq ft in 20 transactions.

Several deals above 10,000 sq ft completed, with the largest transaction in the quarter being the 13,700 sq ft letting to beauty products company Shiseido on the 6th floor at 1 Kingsway. The other transaction above 10,000 sq ft was to solicitors Clintons, who took 10,600 sq ft at the new mixed use scheme at 2 St Giles Square.

Supply in Covent Garden has been slow to recover since the increases following the pandemic. Availability edged downwards in Q1 2022 to 466,700 sq ft but remains 43% above pre pandemic levels. Over the same period, Grade A supply has fallen by 12% to 141,180 sq ft as occupiers have targeted better quality stock. The largest Grade A space is at the comprehensively refurbished Kodak building at 65 Kingsway.

Prime rents moved back to £82.50 per sq ft at the end of Q1 2022, recovering the ground lost in the previous quarter. Values are now 10.0% ahead of where they were 12 months ago as the confidence returns to the Covent Garden market.



Rents on refurbished and unrefurbished space have proved to be more resilient than the top end of the market, moving to  $\pounds$ 72.50 per sq ft  $\pounds$ 57.50 per sq ft respectively.

At the point of instruction – we commenced marketing the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors in their entirety. The 2nd floor comprised 2,942 Sq Ft & the 3rd floor comprised 2,605 sq ft.

The tenancy schedule in Appendix 4 depicts the current vacancy of the property. The only existing remaining tenancies are: Cyclefit Ltd, Covent Garden Laminates, Maxim Computer Graphics and the Latin Mass Society. Our agency instructions were to market any commercial space as soon as it became available. There were instances whereby our marketing efforts proceeded the lease expiries due to requests by tenants to vacate the space earlier.

We have produced a new pictorial set of property particulars containing all relevant information on the property including descriptions, accurate floor areas and photographs, indicating its availability for let for B1 purposes. Details have been sent to approximately 650 central London commercial estate agents via the Estate Agents Clearing House and our own in-house database. Using the clearing house ensures that the particulars are sent to their database of 14,000 commercial agents and every established agency across the country. Between the clearing house and our own in-house database compiled by using the HMRC SIC code (6531) we have ensured that it has reached all relevant parties.

A copy of the particulars has been sent to our current applicants, who have matching requirements. A direct mail shot of the property has been distributed to a variety of local occupiers in and around the general location.

Due to the limited tenant demand and feedback obtained – we knew that we needed to widen our marketing efforts so in October 2020 a dedicated webpage via a microsite was created ensuring that it reaches the widest web catchment possible. The property has been placed on Zoopla & EACH, 4Prop, Focus and EG Propertylink which are the main commercial property databases. Sub800 spends significant money on web advertising and pay for clicks to ensure that the property has maximum online exposure.

(see appendix 1 – with a screenshot of the commencement date and details of the microsite created)

We have erected a 5x4 V board to ensure that the local occupiers are aware of the space available. Whilst this is now considered to be somewhat outdated – a number of applicants reach us via board enquiries.

(see appendix 3 – invoice for erection of the V board)

The marketing campaign could not have been more robust and we have spent a considerable amount of money and energy in gaining maximum exposure for the property.

### **Inspections:**

To date, we have undertaken 38 inspections of the property and have replied to over 90 requests for the particulars. Notable enquiries include:

Retained Clients of Newmark Harper Dennis Hobbs Agent Name: Peter Schaverin Viewing date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 Feedback: Clients preferred alternative premises.

Clinica Fiore ltd



Flavio Refrigeri Viewing date: 11th February 2020 Feedback: The space is too dark and unsuitable for his business. There is no elevator. The entrance to the building is very small and unimpressive, and also shared with residential flats.

Tharwa Investments Limited Director: Colum Campion Viewing date: 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2020 Feedback: concluded the space is unsuitable for their requirements for the following reasons; The building is dated and with small windows and insufficient natural light. The ceilings are too low There are insufficient service areas. The office space and building are unattractive.

QIG Holdings Limited Director : Thiago Hahn Viewing date : 4th of March 2020 Feedback: Unsuitable due to; small windows, lack of natural light and unimpressive office space. Low ceiling height and inadequate toilet facilities.

Retained Clients of Gryphon Properties Agent Name: John Morton Viewing date: 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Feedback: Clients preferred alternative premises.

Retained Clients of Stirling Ackroyd Agent Name: Lucy Stephens Viewing Date: 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Feedback: Clients dismissed immediately due to poor quality.

Fordgate Ltd Director: Steven Gertner Viewing date: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Feedback: Not considered due to poor quality. Requires lift, manned reception, shared communal facilities. Keltbray Ltd Director: Joseph Goldberg Viewing date: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Feedback: Dismissed due to quality of space.

Princeton Investments Director: David Israel Viewing date: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Feedback: Dismissed due to poor natural light, lack of lift, shared common areas with residential tenants.

Retained Clients of Hurford Salvi Carr Agent Name: Derek Lewis Viewing date: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 Feedback: Clients preferred alternative premises.

Retained Clients of Jarvis Keller Agent Name: John Keller Viewing date: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Feedback: Clients preferred alternative premises.

Lorenzi Investments Director: Nethaniel Lorenzi Viewing date: February 11 2021 Feedback: Unsuitable for corporate nature of his clientele.

Fuse Post Viewing date: April 27<sup>th</sup> 2021. Feedback: Rejected due to current specification.

100% Design Studios Director: David Horwich Viewing date: 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 Feedback: Does not fit their technical requirements for photographic studios.

Retained Clients of David Coffer Lyons Agent Name: Jonathan Moradoff Viewing date: 24 August 2021 Feedback: Clients preferred alternative premises.

Retained Clients of Robert Irving Burns Agent Name: Mathew Rogiznitsky Viewing date: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Feedback: Clients did not like the building.

Victoria Taylor London Director: Victoria Taylor Viewing date: January 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 Feedback: Liked the location and profile of the building. Inspected twice, however chose alternative premises as was offered excellent inclusive terms on an inclusive basis on Grade A space.

Weil Properties Ltd Director: Maurice Weil Viewing date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Feedback: Space not suitable due to client facing requirements.

(see appendix 2 – correspondence with selected applicants outlining feedback obtained)

## **Office Market Overview:**

The pandemic exacted a brutal toll on West End neighbourhoods as international tourism ground to a halt and the daily tide of commuters stopped traveling to the city centre. The blow was particularly severe within the WC postcodes. Early signs of recovery are still to hit the bottom line. Shaftesbury, the company, which owns parts of Chinatown, Soho and Covent Garden, has been hit by the sharp fall in the number of tourists and office workers coming into the capital. It said vacancies at its shops, restaurants and offices had nearly tripled to 10.2% in the year to 30 September. As tenants struggled to pay their rent, Shaftesbury's net income fell by 24% to  $\pounds74.3$ . It collected only 53% of the rent due in the second half of the year. This resulted in an annual loss after tax of  $\pounds699.5m$ , compared with a profit of  $\pounds26m$  the



previous year. Last week it announced a further decline in the value of the central London attraction's shops, restaurants and office buildings as the footfall numbers remain depressed and many businesses are still closed. Brian Bickell, the Shaftesbury chief executive, said: "Rarely in history has the world seen such widespread disruption to normal patterns of life. Only now are we seeing the first positive signs that conditions will begin to improve in the year ahead." Shaftesbury said its leasing activity had declined sharply since February due to the pandemic and was below normal levels, although there had been a pickup in inquiries in recent weeks. The pandemic has also forced landlords to rewrite lease agreements to help tenants get through the crisis, and Shaftesbury moved permanently to monthly rents for most commercial tenants from October.

Simply put – the macro effects have made an already difficult letting proposition near impossible. There is such limited demand & there is now a "flight to quality" where tenants will not consider lesser products such as the subject property.

However, it would be simplistic to attribute the current vacancies down to the Covid pandemic. The building is no longer viable for mixed commercial use. The lack of natural light, ceiling height and ineffective floorplates, the damp to the basement, the overall condition of the common areas and toilets are all contributing towards the lack of any interest from commercial occupiers.

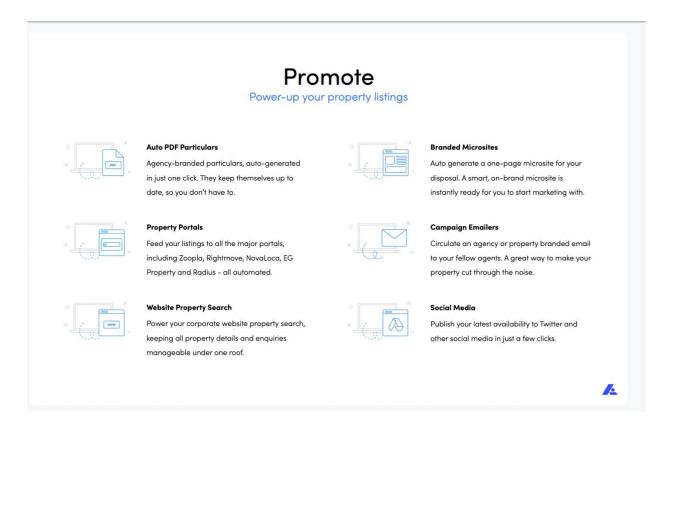
Kind Regards, Jake Pater Partner



## Appendix 1:

The portal showing the date that the Microsite was created: The site remains live and will forward to Zoopla and all the other portals suggested.

| <u> Ag</u> entsInsight | Lupus House, 11 – 13 Macklin Street                               |   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| ORGANISATION           | Summary Interest Schedule Find Matches Insights Now Management Tr | ansactions Availability Media Marketing |
| -∕r Dashboard          | Lupus House, 11 - 13 Macklin Street                               |   |
| n Disposals            | © London, WC2B 5NH  | *                                       |
| 🛱 Requirements         | ① 740 sq ft - To Let - Office                                     |   |
| Transactions           | AVAILABLE Created: 29/10/2020 - Updated: 28/03/2022               | © Quick Look                            |
| Contacts               |   |   |
| 💾 Diary                | Tasks & Viewings Create Task                                      | Related Notes (0)                       |
| ≡ More >               | No Tasks or Viewings assigned to this Disposal                    | Add a comment                           |
|                        |   |   |





## As advertised on Zoopla

| ZOOPLO   | My Home      | Saved |
|--|--------------|-------|
| For sale To rent House prices New homes News and guides Find agents  |              |       |
| Q WC2B (this area only) V 🕋 Property type V £ Any price V 1, 500 min ft <sup>2</sup> V                       | Search       |       |
| Zoopla > Commercial to let > London > Central London > Aldwych > WC2B property to let                        |              |       |
| Commercial property to let in WC2B   |              |       |
| 1 - 9 of 9 25 V Lowest price V III 9 OF OF Draw your search  |              |       |
| Filter results 🗸   |              |       |
| £24,000 pa (£32.43/sq. ft. pa)   | Credit (999) |       |
| 1 740 sq. ft*  |              |       |
| Office to let<br>Lupus House, 11 - 13 Macklin Street, London WC2B<br>And And And And And And And And And And | Э            |       |
| A unique opportunity to rent a one-room unit on Macklin Street   |              |       |



#### Appendix 2. Feedback Correspondence:

From: "Joseph Goldberg" <<u>Joseph.Goldberg@keltbray.com</u>> Subject: Offices Date: 21 November 2020 at 18:57:59 GMT To: <JAKE@NEXTGENREALESTATE.CO.UK>

Jake - thanks for your time. But Lupus House is no good for us. Any other ideas?

Joseph Goldberg | Group Investment Director

M 07890 843689



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From: Derek Lewis [mailto:derek.lewis@h-s-c.co.uk] Sent: 10 December 2020 19:15 To: Jason Grussgott <jason@nextgenrealestate.co.uk Subject: Office Requirement / Covent Garden

Jason,

Clients not interested in this one unfortunately.

Best wishes,

Derek

Derek Lewis

Consultant

Hurford Salvi Carr

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From: Steven Gertner <<u>steven@fordgate.com</u>> Date: Thursday, 22 October 2020 at 12:31 To: "<u>Raphael@nextgenrealestate.co.uk</u>" <<u>Raphael@nextgenrealestate.co.uk</u>> Cc: Jason Grussgott <<u>jason@nextgenrealestate.co.uk</u>> Subject: Lupus House

Dear Effi

Thanks – but we will not be taking this any further.

Menachem

# **Steven Gertner**

## Fordgate Group

1 Allsop Place

London NW1 5LF

steven@fordgate.com

T: 020 7224 1234 F:020 7224 1235



From: Lucy Stephens [<u>mailto:lucys@stirlingackroyd.com</u>] Sent: 28 March 2020 13:47 To: Jason Grussgott <<u>jason@nextgenrealestate.co.uk</u>> Subject: Lupus

Jase,

Sorry love – but the clients really didn't like the space. No chance of them making an offer regardless of pricing. Please let me know if you have any other ideas?

## **Lucy Stephens**

Senior Commercial, Land & Investments Surveyor Stirling Ackroyd Shoreditch

0203 911 3667 Ext: 2510/ Direct Dial

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From: Peter Schaverien [mailto:PeterSchaverien@hdh.co.uk] Sent: 06 February 2020 14:41 To: Jason Grussgott <jason@nextgenrealestate.co.uk Subject: Macklin Street

Jason

Thanks for your time yesterday – but the clients weren't keen on the spa was not shortlisted. They felt it was too tired.

Thanks

Peter

# Peter Schaverien, BA (Hons) MA MRICS Director

Telephone +44 20 7462 8711 Mobile +44 7825 827 992 Email <u>peterschaverien@hdh.co.uk</u> Website <u>www.hdh.co.uk</u>

Langham House 302/308 Regent Street London W1B 3AT United Kingdom

# **Harper Dennis Hobbs**





## Appendix 3. Board Invoice

GRANTCAP

Daylight Signs 225 Alma Road Enfield Middlesex EN3 7BB 020 8443 4222 Tel : 01493 740651 Email : shaun.daylightsigns@gmail.com VAT Reg No: 629544025



INVOICEPage 1Invoice No259608Invoice Date20/06/2021Order NoAccount RefONEOFFS

| Quantity | Description                            | Unit Price | Disc Amt | Net Amt | VAT % | VAT   |
|----------|--|------------|----------|---------|-------|-------|
| 1.00     | 4X3 ANGLE/FLAG<br>11-13 MACKLIN STREET | 198.00     | 0.00     | 198.00  | 20.00 | 39.60 |
|          | ben@grantcap.com                       |            | 0.00     |         |       |       |

Limesound Ltd T/A Daylight Signs NatWest Bank A/C 58647481 S/C60.07.38 Please send remittance advise to shaun.daylightsigns@gmail.com quoting invoice number For Daylight signs full terms and conditions including board insurances please go to www.daylight-signs.com and look under terms and conditions

Payment Terms :

| Total Discount   | £ | 0.00   |
|------------------|---|--------|
| Total Net Amount | £ | 198.00 |
| Carriage Net     | £ | 0.00   |
| Total Tax Amount | £ | 39.60  |
| Invoice Total    | £ | 237.60 |



## Appendix 4. Current commercial tenancy schedule.

| Unit               | Tenant                  | Rent            | From      | То        |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Ground Floor West  | Cyclefit                | £35,000         | 26-Dec-21 | 24-Dec-22 |
| Mezzanine West     |                         | 200,000         | 20 200 22 |           |
| Ground Floor East  | Covent Garden Laminates | minates £35,000 | 25 Dec 24 | 24 0 22   |
| Mezzanine East     | Covent Garden Laminates |                 | 25-Dec-21 | 24-Dec-22 |
| First Floor West   | Maxim Computer Graphics | £68,000         | 25-Dec-21 | 24-Dec-22 |
| First Floor East   | Vacant                  | N/A             | N/A       | N/A       |
| Second Floor       | Vacant                  | N/A             | N/A       | N/A       |
| Second Floor       | Vacant                  | N/A             | N/A       | N/A       |
| Third Floor (Part) | Latin Mass Society      | £22,000         | 25-Dec-21 | 24-Dec-22 |
| Third Floor (Part) | Vacant                  | N/A             | N/A       | N/A       |