

Reference 2021/2954/P – One Museum Street

I write to oppose this application in the strongest possible terms. With an increase of height of 20.41 metres it will be visible and dominant over a wide area of this eastern part of the West End. It is completely inappropriate for the British Museum and the surrounding conservation area. It will do major landscape harm.

Also it is if the developers and perhaps Camden planning officers are unaware of the climate emergency we face currently being debated at COP27. The completely demolish and rebuild at this scale will mean a further major loss of pre-existing structure and the carbon dioxide caused by that construction, the CO2 of the demolition and reconstruction process will cause further huge emissions at a time when we as a society are being urged to cut back and to change our behaviour to conserve energy and prevent emissions. One rule for us and another for developers who appear to feel able to lay waste to the planet's resources at will to create a building for which future demand is unproven. The trend to work from home may well gather pace. Why not retrofit the ugly Travellodge as a much more sustainable option. After all in 2019 Camden prided itself on declaring a climate emergency and holding a Citizens Assembly which in its report at point 11 required a policy to retrofit old buildings. Just words I suppose, not backed by an real action so far.

I am surprised that since its submission in 2021 in the light of the clear view expressed in its Citizens Assembly 2 years earlier that Camden has not made it clear to the applicants that a new build approach is completely inappropriate.

Please recommend to your councillors that the application be refused.

Yours sincerely