

Sent by email to: planning@camden.gov.uk

Charlotte Meynell
Planning Office
Camden Planning Department

08 March 2023

Dear Ms Meynell

**Application No. 2023/0282/P - Chester Terrace Gardens Chester Terrace London NW1 4ND
Demolition and rebuilding of listed garden retaining wall and balustrade.**

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust in relation to the above planning application.

I write as a member of the Planning & Conservation Working Group of the London Historic Parks & Gardens Trust (trading as London Parks and Gardens LPG). LPG is affiliated to The Gardens Trust (TGT, formerly the Garden History Society and the Association of Gardens Trusts), which is a statutory consultee in respect of planning proposals affecting sites included in the Historic England (English Heritage) Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. Inclusion of a site in the Historic England (HE) Register is a material consideration in determining a planning application.

LPG is the gardens trust for Greater London and makes observations on behalf of TGT in respect of registered sites, and may also comment on planning matters affecting other parks, gardens and green open spaces, especially when included in the LPG's Inventory of Historic Spaces (see <https://londongardenstrust.org/conservation/inventory/>) and/or when included in the Greater London Historic Environment Register (GLHER).

LPG has considered the information that you have provided and make the following comments.

The balustrade retaining wall to the garden at Chester Terrace is grade II listed and adjoins the Chester Terrace houses which are grade I listed. Chester Terrace falls within the boundaries of the Regent's Park Conservation Area. Regent's Park is listed on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens at Grade 1. It is therefore regarded as of national importance and unique.

The existing balustrade is not original and is generally in a poor condition and has a number of defects across its whole length, as illustrated in the Design and Access Statement attached to the planning application. This document concludes that "the retaining wall and balustrade are unsafe and hence need to be replaced".

It has been found necessary to remove 20 trees in order for the works to be carried out successfully. We understand from the Arboricultural Report attached to the planning application that the removal of the specified trees is considered to be necessary, due to the fact that the affected trees are located either within or immediately adjacent to the area that requires excavation to implement the Proposed Development.

We welcome these proposals on the basis that there will be proper root protection for the retained trees in Chester Terrace Gardens whilst the works are undertaken. We note that the tree re-planting and management will be in stricter adherence to the original design intentions and in accordance with the Crown Estate Paving Commission Tree Management Strategy and **support** on these proposals.

Yours sincerely,

For and on behalf of the Planning & Conservation Working Group

cc.

- The Gardens Trust