

INDIA BUILDINGS PLANNING APPLICATION

Ref: 15/04445/FUL Address: 1–15 Victoria Street, 18-20 Cowgate, EH1 2EX

Last date for comments: Friday 30 October

ACTION YOU CAN TAKE:

Make a comment on the application online:

Go to: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/PlanningandDevelopmentOnline

Put in the number: 15/04445/FUL

View the plans and other documents by clicking on 'Documents'

Click on 'Comment' and scroll down to find the form.

Tick the box marked 'object' before you start

Make a comment by email or post:

Head you letter or email with the ref: number and address of the application.

Email your comments to emma.wilson@edinburgh.gov.uk or attach a letter.

Write to: Planning & Building Standards, City of Edinburgh Council, Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh, EH8 8BG. Remember to say 'I object to the application on the following grounds' or 'for the following reasons'

Ask for an acknowledgement.

Contact your Councillor, MSP, MP:

Copy you objection to them and ask for their support

Spread the word by social media and networks; post this leaflet online

Here are some reasons for objecting based on current planning policies. Do expand them with more detail - there is not enough room here for that - and add your own objections:

The proposals for a 235-bedroom hotel building on the site to the rear of India Buildings, with a 7-storey building set right against the narrow Cowgate pavement, will be over-development of this site and in this location. (Contrary to policies DES 1, DES 3)

The new buildings will seriously impact on the B-listed Central Library on George IV Bridge by severely obstructing the light and the views within this valued and iconic building, as well as the views of it from the Cowgate and other vantage points. This will be detrimental to the Old Town Conservation Area and to the World Heritage Site. (Contrary to policies ENV 1, ENV 3, DES 1, DES 3)

The provisions for servicing this 235-bedroom hotel and for bus and taxi access for the large number of guests are very poor. There is likely to be a lot of extra traffic and congestion in Victoria Street and on the Cowgate, both already very congested. (Contrary to DES 3)

The plans to use the Cowgatehead church building as a licensed 'venue' where there is already noise and congestion, plus the likelihood of other licensed venues within the hotel complex on the Cowgate and in Victoria Street, breach the area's designation as one of 'overprovision' of liquor licences. (Contrary to HOU 8, RET 12)

There will be loss of a 40-year-old sycamore on the Cowgate with no plans to replace it or to provide visible or accessible public green spaces within the development. (Contrary to policies ENV 6, DES 3)

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD - AND GET YOUR COMMENTS IN BY 30 OCTOBER!

