

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!

Impact of the India Buildings development on the Central Library building

In 1887, the famous architect, George Washington Browne, won a competition to design this Andrew Carnegie-endowed library. **The principal aim of his design was to maximise light** (source: Historic Scotland). For 125 years his building has served the people of Edinburgh, who enter beneath a banner engraved '**Let There Be Light**'.



The Council is currently developing its '*long term vision for the Central Library as a significant cultural destination for the city*' and '*with the National Library of Scotland exploring .. joint funding options to support transformational change across these iconic buildings*'. **Meanwhile, the Council is selling off the land at the back of the library for a 235-BEDROOM, 9-STOREY hotel that will BLOCK OUT the LIGHT and the VIEWS from this magnificent building.**

STOP THIS VANDALISM AND SAVE THE LIGHT AND THE VIEWS IN THE LIBRARY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO ENJOY.



the Architects' Act
registered in Scotland company no 267727
Do not scale from this drawing. If in doubt, ask
the drafter for the original drawing and read the
scale and permission.
10/17 024 17

Proposed Section KK
Scale: 1:250

Materials Key
1 Sandstone
2 Bronze standing seam cladding
3 Bronze aluminium fins
4 Titanium roof cladding
5 Fibre-reinforced cladding panels
6 Curtain walling
7 Bronze aluminium cladding panels
8 Bronze aluminium framing (window frames/channels)
9 Stone roof tiles
India Buildings

Issue 02
MAY 2015

Drawn by
NVS

Scale 0: N17
1:250

Project ID
538

Project Name
FL000143

Client
The City of Edinburgh Council

11/02/2015 2:16
www.ica.com

