

24 March 2015

Planning Department
Liverpool City Council
Municipal Buildings
Dale Street
Liverpool

Dear Sirs

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Town & Country Planning Act 1990

RE: Application for Planning & Listed Building Consent – Former Royal School for the Blind (latterly known as Trade Union and Unemployed Community Resource Centre), Hardman Street, Liverpool L1.
Planning Portal Application Ref: **PP-04078794**

This letter and attached Planning & Heritage Statement are written in support of a joint Planning and Listed Building Consent application in respect of the above-mentioned site.

The site historically was the former Royal School for the Blind, which later was used as a local Police HQ and most latterly used as a trade union resource centre building.

The Planning & LBC Application is submitted on behalf of our client DBL – a registered limited company based in Liverpool and in support of prospective tenants New Moon Pub Company and 92 Degrees Coffee shop. In addition the proposal will deliver a new pizza restaurant (tenant details at this stage subject to confidentiality).

The Council is aware of the client's ownership of the former TU building and the significant development aspirations that the client company is earnestly seeking to formalise together with the prospective tenant operators and the City Council.

The former TU building is an iconic neo-classical style stone and brick listed building situated on the edge of Canning Street Conservation Area.

It is a considerable building in terms of its arrangement and layout and requires significant investment and commercial flair to deliver a commercially viable development that will bring the TU building back into

economic use for purposes, that would be complementary to the various mix of land uses already found in the area around Hardman Street/Hope Street and the University Quarter.

The current Planning & Listed Building Consent application will assist in delivering viable and long term uses for the listed building, with the modest interventions yet through a scheme of major repair and restoration which will bring back the building up to modern standards.

The Planning & Listed Building Consent application has been lodged online via the Planning Portal supported by relevant plans/drawings, photographic survey, supporting Planning & Heritage Statement and the original Heritage Statement prepared in respect of the 2012 planning application approved for a mix of uses within the building (refer to extant planning permission ref: 12F/1898).

We trust that along with the submission documents and plans that the Council has sufficient information to process and approve the joint Planning & Listed Building Consent application in due course.

In the meantime, we look forward to continuing to work with the Council Officers to deliver a challenging and exciting regeneration and conservation project within a key location within Liverpool's Hope Street Cultural Quarter and University Knowledge Quarter.

Regards

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Director

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cc – Mr D Brewit – DB Ltd

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Mr P Smiles – Rainhill Design