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## Appeal Decision

Hearing held on 4 October 2016

Site visit made on 4 October 2016

**by David Prentis BA BPI MRTPI**

**an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government**

**Decision date: 4 November 2016**

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**Appeal Ref: APP/X5210/W/16/3147078**

**Quick Parking Car Park, 112A Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3NP**

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant planning permission.
  - The appeal is made by Central London Investments Limited against the decision of the Council of the London Borough of Camden.
  - The application Ref 2015/3605/P, dated 1 October 2015, was refused by notice dated 4 February 2016.
  - The development proposed is change of use of part ground floor and basement levels -4 and -5 from car park (sui generis) to 166 bedroom hotel (Class C1), including alterations to openings, walls and fascia on ground floor elevations on Great Russell Street and Adeline Place.
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### Decision

1. The appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted for change of use of part ground floor and basement levels -4 and -5 from car park (sui generis) to 166 bedroom hotel (Class C1), including alterations to openings, walls and fascia on ground floor elevations on Great Russell Street and Adeline Place at Quick Parking Car Park, 112A Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3NP in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref 2015/3605/P, dated 1 October 2015, subject to the conditions set out in the attached schedule.

### Main issues

2. The main issues are:
  - whether the proposal would provide acceptable environmental conditions for future occupiers
  - the effect of the proposal on the living conditions of local residents and the amenity of users of the public realm

### Preliminary matters

3. The appeal was initially submitted under the name of Criterion Capital, managing agent for Central London Investments Limited. Central London Investments Limited, the original applicant for planning permission, has since provided written confirmation that it is content for the appeal to proceed under its name. I have determined the appeal on that basis.
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4. A unilateral undertaking (UU) under s106 of the Town and Country Planning Act was submitted at the hearing. This had not been signed due to the need for changes to the document shortly before the hearing. However, the document discussed at the hearing was complete in all respects other than the signatures. I therefore allowed a period following the hearing for a signed version to be submitted. The statement of common ground confirms that the Council is satisfied that the UU addresses all those matters referred to in its reasons for refusal numbered 3 – 12.
5. The Bloomsbury Association expressed concern that there are other occupiers of the building who are not party to the UU but who might be affected by it. The appeal relates to part of the ground floor and to basement levels -4 and -5 of a large multi-level building which has other occupiers, including the St Giles Hotel and the YMCA. It may be that there are some areas within the application red line boundary which are in the control of other parties. However, the Council's legal department is satisfied that the appellant has sufficient control over the parts of the building which are relevant to the development for the obligations to be effective. I share that view. Moreover, the UU does not introduce matters which have not previously been in the public domain. The heads of terms were set out in the committee report and the justification for the various obligations is given in the Council's appeal statement. The final UU is very similar to the draft submitted with the appeal. Consequently, I am satisfied that no party has been prejudiced by the process leading up to the completion of the UU.
6. The UU contains provisions relating to an employment and training plan, local employment and local procurement, a construction management plan, a highways contribution, a pedestrian/cycling and environmental improvements contribution, a sustainability plan, a hotel management plan, a public open space contribution, a travel plan, a Crossrail contribution, an energy efficiency and renewable energy plan, a cycle hire docking station, a servicing management plan and car-free development.
7. The Council provided a statement of compliance with the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations. This showed how the various obligations relate to provisions of the development plan and the Council's *CPG8 - Planning obligations*. Further detail was provided in answer to my questions. The Bloomsbury Association expressed concern that the UU leaves too much to be settled at a later date. I appreciate that a number of matters would require subsequent approval by the Council. However, the scope of the various plans required by the UU is set out within the definitions section of the UU. Although numerous, these are not novel or unusual provisions. I consider that the UU accords with the CIL Regulations and I have taken it into account in my decision. I comment further on some of the individual provisions below.

## **Reasons**

### *Background and policy context*

8. The appeal relates to parts of a large complex which occupies the street block bounded by Tottenham Court Road, Great Russell Street, Adeline Place and Bedford Avenue. Other occupiers of the complex include the St Giles Hotel, which is entered from Bedford Street, the YMCA, entered from Great Russell Street, the VQ restaurant, which is also on Great Russell Street, and the St Giles casino which is entered from Tottenham Court Road. There is residential

accommodation nearby, including Bedford Court Mansions on the opposite sides of Adeline Place and Bedford Avenue respectively. There are two other hotels close by (the Cheshire and the Bloomsbury) on opposite sides of Great Russell Street.

9. The site is a little to the north of St Giles Circus, the intersection of Tottenham Court Road and Oxford Street. Tottenham Court Road underground station is currently being extended to accommodate Crossrail. The area is thus very well served by public transport and has the highest possible public transport accessibility level (PTAL) rating. It is close to many of central London's retail, entertainment and cultural attractions.
10. The development plan includes the London Plan (LP), the Camden Core Strategy (CCS), the Camden Development Policies (CDP) and the Fitzrovia Area Action Plan (FAAP). LP Policy 4.5 identifies a need for 40,000 additional hotel rooms by 2031, with 2,500 additional rooms in Camden by 2026. The site is within the Central Activities Zone (CAZ) which, the CCS notes, comprises the core of the capital with a unique cluster of activities contributing to London's role as a world city. Policy CS9 seeks to support the Central London area of Camden as a successful and vibrant part of the capital and as a focus for growth in homes, offices, hotels and other uses. The policy also seeks to support residential communities in Central London by protecting amenity and supporting community facilities.
11. Policy CS1 of the CSS seeks to focus growth in the most sustainable locations. The policy promotes a number of growth areas, including Tottenham Court Road. The officer's report describes the appeal site as being on the edge of this growth area. The policy also seeks to make efficient use of land and buildings, expecting high density development in Central London and locations well served by public transport. CDP Policy DP14 supports tourism development, expecting that large scale development will be located in the growth areas. This is subject to requirements that proposals for visitor accommodation should provide any necessary off-highway pickup and set down points for taxis and coaches and should not harm the balance of uses in the area, local character or residential amenity.

*Environmental conditions for future occupiers*

12. The main concerns of the Council and the Bloomsbury Association related to air quality (AQ). The whole of the Borough has been declared an Air Quality Management Zone. Being underground, the proposed hotel would be wholly reliant on mechanical ventilation. Such systems typically include an air intake located at high level, where air quality is likely to be better. In this case that option is not open to the appellant and the proposal is for the intake to be located at street level facing Adeline Place.
13. The application was supported by an AQ assessment, which set out the relevant AQ objectives for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulates. There was no dispute that the objective for particulates is unlikely to be exceeded so it is NO<sub>2</sub> which is the point at issue here. There are objectives for the annual average concentration of NO<sub>2</sub> and the one-hour average. The former is not directly applicable to hotels, unless used as a permanent residence. The relevant objective for hotels is a one-hour figure of 200 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is not to be exceeded more than 18 times per year.

14. Data from the nearest available monitoring stations shows that there has not been more than 18 incidences of NO<sub>2</sub> levels above the target (in one year) since 2010. However, as the annual average at Adeline Place is likely to be above the objective, the AQ assessment concluded that there is the potential for the one-hour objective to be exceeded in the vicinity of the proposed air intake. The recommended mitigation is that the intake be fitted with an NO<sub>2</sub> scrubber. Details of a system which could be used were included in the AQ assessment. These show that the interior of the hotel would meet the relevant AQ objective. A planning condition has been suggested which would require submission and approval of further details together with arrangements for maintenance.
15. The Council objected to the location of the intake at street level because this is where AQ is likely to be poorest. The appellant readily accepted that, given the choice, the intake would be better located at a higher level. However, as noted above, that option is not available. That said, street-level conditions are already reflected in the baseline on which the AQ assessment's recommendations are founded. The Council did not dispute the findings of the AQ assessment. Rather, it questioned whether the proposed scrubber would be effective in the event of very high levels of NO<sub>2</sub> being present, perhaps for short periods. Concerns were also raised about the possibility of system failure and the need to evacuate the hotel. The Bloomsbury Association was concerned that the system has not yet been proved to be effective because it has not been designed in detail.
16. Information has been provided regarding the efficiency of the system across a range of NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. The suggested condition would enable the Council to seek further information should that be thought necessary. At the hearing the appellant's AQ consultant explained that the system has no mechanical parts so the risk of failure is low. Moreover, in the event of a failure it is most unlikely that the hotel would be evacuated because the AQ within the hotel would still be better than that outside at street level.
17. It is right to point out that the detailed design of the system has yet to take place. That in itself is not unusual in the context of planning decisions. The question for any decision maker is whether or not the potential impact and the potential means of mitigation have been sufficiently investigated and understood for further details to be made the subject of a condition. On that basis, I consider that it would be appropriate to impose the suggested condition, thereby satisfactorily mitigating the effect of the AQ in Adeline Place on occupiers of the proposed hotel.
18. Typical room layouts have been provided. Whilst the rooms would be compact, I see no reason to think that they would be unsuitable for short term use by visitors. Although the Council's first reason for refusal refers to the layout and design of the development, this was not a point supported by further evidence or analysis at the hearing.
19. Some of those who made written and/or oral representations were of the opinion that underground hotel rooms without windows are in principle an unsuitable way of accommodating visitors. Whilst that is a legitimate point of view, it does not find support in planning policy or guidance. Visitors to London have a wide choice of hotel accommodation. Perhaps some would choose not to sleep in an underground room. However, others may well decide that the

benefits of a highly accessible location, close to numerous visitor attractions, would outweigh the absence of a window. I can see no land use planning reason why that choice should be precluded.

20. To conclude, I consider that the proposal would provide adequate environmental conditions for future occupiers. I find no conflict with CCS Policy CS5, which seeks to protect the amenity of the occupiers of new development, or with Policy CS16 which seeks to improve health and well-being and to recognise the impact of poor air quality on health. Nor do I find conflict with CDP Policy DP26, which seeks to protect the quality of life of occupiers, or Policy DP32 which requires mitigation measures where developments are located in areas of poor air quality.

*The living conditions of local residents and the amenity of users of the public realm*

21. The scheme has the potential to generate noise from fixed plant including air handling equipment, air source heat pumps and an emergency generator. The entrance to the service ramp and the air intake and exhaust would be located on the Adeline Place elevation, directly opposite Bedford Court Mansions. The appellant's noise assessment found that the night-time noise from plant at Bedford Court Mansions would be 10 dB(A) below the background noise level. That would be in accordance with the noise and vibration threshold referred to in CPD Policy DP28.
22. In this case the Council promoted a criterion of 15 dB(A) below the background noise level. This significantly stricter criterion reflects an emerging policy position which is intended to guard against creeping increases in background noise levels. Following further discussions the appellant confirmed that it would be able to comply with the 15 dB(A) criterion. A condition to that effect was included in the Council's schedule of suggested conditions.
23. The Bloomsbury Association was concerned that there was a lack of detail in the proposals for fixed plant. For example, it was pointed out that the plans showing ductwork were preliminary and it was not clear how the effectiveness of any attenuation measures would be affected by the need to maintain access to the service ramp. As noted above, in relation to AQ, it is not unusual for planning conditions to be imposed in situations where mitigation measures have yet to be designed in detail. In this case, I am satisfied on the evidence before the hearing that this is a matter which can appropriately be controlled by a condition.
24. I am mindful of the potential for multiple sources of plant noise in this location and the close proximity of residential properties. I agree with the Council that, in the particular circumstances of this case, it would be appropriate to stipulate the criterion of 15 dB(A) below the background, notwithstanding that this is a stricter criterion than that set out in the development plan.
25. The proposal would also have the potential to cause noise and disturbance from the comings and goings of hotel guests and from service traffic. In assessing these impacts it is necessary to bear in mind that the appeal site is currently in use as a car park with entry and exit ramps on Adeline Place. Vehicular traffic associated with that use would be removed by the appeal scheme.
26. The appellant's traffic assessment (TA) considered the potential for trip generation and modal split by reference to a comparable hotel in Lambeth. On

that basis, it found that the proposed hotel would generate around 100 trips in the busiest hour (1800 – 1900). Of these, 90% would be on foot or via public transport. The assessment methodology appears to me to be reasonable and I accept these conclusions. Pedestrian movement would be focussed on Great Russell Street where the entrance to the hotel would be located. In the context of this busy central London location I consider that the additional footfall associated with the hotel is unlikely to be discernable.

27. The TA indicates that there would be 7 taxi trips in the busiest hour. There would be no off-street pickup/set down point. However, bearing in mind the location of the hotel entrance and the bus stands in Great Russell Street, it seems likely that taxis would stop in the section of the street closest to Tottenham Court Road where there are double yellow lines. Given the amount of taxi traffic anticipated, it seems unlikely that this would be problematic. I do not think that an off-street facility is strictly 'necessary' in the terms of Policy DP14.
28. At the hearing local residents and Councillors described the particular problems associated with the impact of coaches on the locality. This appears to be related in part to coaches bringing people to hotels but also to coaches bringing visitors to other destinations in the wider area. The appellant stated that the style of hotel envisaged would not be aimed at large groups. Consequently it would be unlikely to add to coach traffic. A condition was suggested which would limit the size of groups which could be booked in to the hotel to somewhere in the range 8 to 14<sup>1</sup>, thereby making it unlikely that the hotel would be attractive to coach parties.
29. I note that this is a matter which could be considered within the ambit of a hotel management plan, submitted under the terms of the UU. However, I am also mindful of the fact that the hotel operator is not yet known. The suggested condition would clarify the position for the benefit of potential hotel operators and residents alike. In my view such a condition would be necessary in this case, to manage the potential impact from additional coach traffic.
30. The existing complex has an off-street loading bay but this is used by the St Giles Hotel. The proposed hotel would be reliant on on-street servicing. Clearly this is not an ideal situation, particularly in a busy location such as this where kerbside space is at a premium. Nevertheless, in assessing the degree of harm, there are a number of factors to take into account. First, the proposed hotel would not have any restaurants, bars or function suites. This would reduce the amount of service traffic required. The TA indicates that there would typically be one delivery van per day with a maximum of 3 vehicles on any day. Such vehicles would be able to stop on the double yellow lines in front of the service entrance for a short period whilst loading/unloading.
31. Second, the scheme would increase the length of kerbside available due to the removal of the vehicle crossovers to the two car park ramps. This would be a significant increase in the context of the short section of Adeline Place between Great Russell Street and Bedford Avenue. Third, the hours of servicing could be limited by a condition to avoid disturbance to residents at unsocial hours. Further measures, for example measures to avoid a number of delivery

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<sup>1</sup> The appellant's position was that this matter could be addressed through the hotel management plan to be submitted pursuant to the UU. However, the appellant considered that, if found to be necessary, such a condition would be in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

- vehicles arriving at the same time, could be agreed through the servicing management plan to be submitted pursuant to the UU. Having regard to all of the above factors, and mindful of the existing use of the car park, I do not consider that the proposed servicing arrangements would result in significant harm to the amenity of the area or the living conditions of nearby residents.
32. The Bloomsbury Association and local residents raised concerns about the potential for disturbance from groups of hotel guests congregating on the pavements near the hotel and for anti-social behaviour. It is fair to point out that the scheme would do little to animate the frontage to Adeline Place at street level. However, this area is currently an unattractive under-croft dominated by the car park ramps. Enclosing the void spaces would be a modest improvement. The officer's report notes that the local policing team had no objection, commenting that any increase in footfall would tend to deter drug users from the area and that existing car parks tend to attract car crime. The hotel management plan, agreed under the UU, would cover matters such as staffing and security.
33. It is possible that a proportion of hotel staff and/or guests would use the public realm near the hotel for smoking. However, there is no reason to think that staff or guests of the proposed hotel would be any more likely to engage in antisocial behaviour than the users of other establishments in the locality. The Bloomsbury Association emphasised the cumulative effect of the proposal in combination with the many hotel bedrooms already present in the immediate vicinity of the site. Whilst I take account of that concern, it is also pertinent to note that the site is in a part of the CAZ which has a vibrant mix of land uses. On the evidence before the hearing, I do not think that the proposal would harm the balance and mix of uses in the area.
34. My overall assessment is that the proposal would not result in material harm to the living conditions of local residents or the amenity of users of the public realm. It would not conflict with CCS Policy CS5, with CDP Policies DP12, DP14 and DP26 or with FAAP Policy 9. Together these policies seek to manage the impact of development in Camden and to protect local character and residential amenity.

#### *Other matters*

35. The site is not within a conservation area but it adjoins the Bloomsbury Conservation Area to the north, east and south. The existing complex is an imposing 20<sup>th</sup> century structure in the Brutalist style. The strong horizontal elements of the first floor podium are a prominent feature in close-up views. The current street level elevation to Adeline Place has a utilitarian character and is visually dominated by the car park entrances. The enclosure of the voids beneath the podium would be an enhancement. Whilst the new elevation to Adeline Place would be visible in the view from Bedford Square, it would be a minor element in the view and would not materially change the way that the building as a whole is experienced in the townscape.
36. The character of a conservation area can also be affected by changes in land use, activities and patterns of movement. However, in this case I do not think there would be a significant change in the overall character of the area for the reasons given above. The character of the conservation area would therefore be preserved.

37. St Giles Casino raised a concern regarding the loss of the car park which, it was suggested, would have a harmful effect on the business. No doubt the existing car park is a convenient facility for some customers of the casino. However, the reduction of off-street parking is consistent with the general thrust of planning policy which is to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in this busy central area. The officer's report states that the average occupancy of the car park is 57% and that there are alternative facilities nearby. Given the highly accessible nature of the location there is no reason to think that the loss of the car park would result in a significant impact on local businesses.
38. At the hearing it was stated that a strip of land within the application site boundary, along the Adeline Place frontage, is not in the control of the appellant company. That is not a matter for me to determine. The grant of planning permission does not alter any interests in property which may exist. Any such matters would be for the parties concerned to resolve.
39. Turning to the overall sustainability of the proposal, the fact that the hotel would be permanently reliant on mechanical ventilation must be regarded as a disadvantage. On the other hand, the proposal would make effective use of an underused building in a highly accessible location. It would also support the economy of Camden and London by contributing to the stock of hotel accommodation. The various obligations in the UU would ensure that the scheme would contribute to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Looked at in the round, I consider that the proposal would represent sustainable development.

#### *Conclusions*

40. In conclusion, the proposal would make effective use of an under-used part of an existing building. It would provide additional visitor accommodation in a highly accessible location, consistent with the objectives of the LP and CSS. The impact of air quality on future occupiers of the hotel, potential impacts on the living conditions of local residents and the effect on the amenity of users of the public realm can be managed adequately through planning conditions and the terms of the UU. The absence of off-street servicing is a disadvantage of the scheme. However, taking account of the removal of the existing car park and the closure of the related vehicle crossovers, I do not think that the proposed servicing arrangements would result in significant harm.
41. My overall assessment is that the proposal would accord with the development plan as a whole. I have not identified any considerations which indicate that the appeal should be determined other than in accordance with the development plan. The appeal should therefore be allowed.

#### *Conditions*

42. The Council has suggested conditions which I have considered in the light of Planning Practice Guidance. Condition 2 requires development to be in accordance with the plans, to reflect that guidance. Condition 3 requires details of an NO<sub>2</sub> scrubbing system in the interests of ensuring that environmental conditions within the development are suitable for future occupiers. Condition 4 controls hours of deliveries, condition 7 requires submission of a piling method statement and condition 9 sets limits for noise from plant and equipment, all in the interests of protecting the living conditions of nearby residents.

43. Condition 5 requires further information regarding various building details in the interests of the character and appearance of the area and the living conditions of nearby residents. Condition 6 requires the provision of cycle storage and condition 8 requires the provision of storage space for refuse and recycling in the interests of sustainable development. Condition 10 requires submission of a drainage strategy to manage risks of pollution. Conditions 6 and 10 require the approval of details before the commencement of development because these details could affect the design of the scheme.
44. Condition 11 requires the premises to be used as a single planning unit to avoid future subdivision which could have adverse effects on the locality in terms of traffic generation, servicing requirements and environmental conditions. Condition 12 requires details of any electrical plant in the basement to avoid the risk of harm to the underground railway system. Condition 13 restricts the size of group bookings in order to limit the impact of coach traffic in the locality.

*David Prentis*

Inspector

## **APPEARANCES**

### FOR THE APPELLANT:

Russell Harris	Queen's Counsel
Dr Claire Holman	Brook Cottage Consultants
Ian Cowley	Hoare Lea
Nick Hawkins	Hawkins Environmental
Julian Carter	Savills

### FOR THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:

Michael Cassidy	Planning Officer
Joanne Stowell	Environmental Health Officer
William Bartlett	Solicitor
Adam Webber	Air Quality Officer
Ana Lopez	Sustainability Officer
Steve Cardno	Transport Officer

### INTERESTED PERSONS:

Roger Wilson	Bloomsbury Association
Jim Murray	Chairman, Bloomsbury Association
Stephen Heath	Bloomsbury Association
Mohsen Zikri	Former Director, Arup
Mohammad Tabarra	Associate Director, Arup
Jason Swan	Partner, Sandy Brown Associates
Andrew Dismore	Member of the Greater London Assembly
Cllr Sue Vincent	Member of Camden Council
Cllr Roberts	Member of Westminster Council
Charlotte Grant	Associate, MDA Planning
Stephen Gould	Bedford Estates
Stephen Johnson	St Giles Hotel
David Judd	Director, Bedford Court Mansions Ltd
Roger Myddelton	Director, Bedford Court Mansions Ltd
Chris Gardiner	Resident of Bedford Court Mansions
Peter Dayan	Resident of Bedford Court Mansions
Salwa Heath	Resident of Bedford Court Mansions
Alun Wood	YMCA

### DOCUMENTS

- 1 Formalities bundle
- 2 Draft Unilateral Undertaking
- 3 Statement of common ground
- 4 Bundle of agreed plans
- 5 Appearances for the appellant
- 6 Appearances for the Bloomsbury Association
- 7 Draft Unilateral Undertaking (final)
- 8 Unilateral Undertaking dated 13 October 2016

## **Schedule of conditions**

- 1) The development hereby permitted shall begin not later than 3 years from the date of this decision.
- 2) The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans:  
2897/L/01, 2897/P/01B, 2897/P/02B, 2897/P/03B, 2897/P/04B, 2897/P/05B, 2897/P/06A, 2897/P/07, 2897/P/08A, 2897/P/11F, 2897/P/12C, 2897/P/13C, 2897/P/14D, 2897/P/15G, 2897/P/16G, 2897/P/17D, 2897/P/18C, 2897/P/19B, 2897/P/31, 2897/P/32, DMWR/A3/3233/PL-00300revP1,
- 3) Prior to first occupation of the development, an Air Quality Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The report shall provide evidence that an appropriate NO<sub>2</sub> scrubbing system on the mechanical ventilation intake has been installed. The system shall be generally in accordance with the recommendations of the submitted Air Quality Assessment by Hoare Lea dated 22 May 2015. The report shall include a detailed maintenance plan for the system. The scrubbing system shall thereafter be operated and maintained in accordance with the approved report for the lifetime of the development.
- 4) Deliveries and collections (including waste collections) shall be taken at or despatched from the site only between 0900hrs and 2100hrs on any day.
- 5) Detailed drawings, or samples of materials as appropriate, in respect of the following, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority before the relevant part of the work is begun:
  - a) manufacturer's specification and details of all facing materials including colour and samples of those materials.
  - b) plan, elevation and section drawings, including fascia, cornice, pilasters and glazing panels of the new hotel entrance at a scale of 1:10
  - c) details including sections at 1:10 of all windows (including jambs, head and cill details), ventilation grills and external doors
  - d) details of service ductsThe relevant parts of the works shall be carried out in accordance with the details thus approved and all approved samples shall be retained on site during the course of the works.
- 6) Before the development commences, details for the provision of a minimum of 8 covered, secure and fully enclosed cycle storage/parking spaces for staff and 24 cycle parking spaces for visitors shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The cycle parking facilities should be designed to Camden Council's design specifications as detailed in CPG7. The cycle parking facilities shall be provided as approved prior to the occupation of the development and shall thereafter be permanently retained as such.
- 7) No impact piling shall take place until a piling method statement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning

- authority. The method statement should be prepared in consultation with Thames Water or the relevant statutory undertaker, detailing the depth and type of piling to be undertaken, the methodology by which such piling would be carried out, measures to minimise the potential for damage to subsurface water infrastructure and the programme for the works. Any piling must be undertaken in accordance with the approved piling method statement.
- 8) Prior to occupation of the development the refuse and recycling storage facilities intended for its occupiers shall be provided as shown on the drawings hereby approved. Thereafter the refuse and recycling storage facilities shall be permanently retained as such.
  - 9) Prior to the commencement of the authorised use, a written acoustic report detailing measures to control noise from fixed plant and equipment shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The noise level from any plant and equipment, together with any associated ducting or vents, shall be 15 dB(A) or more below the lowest relevant measured LA90 (15min) at the nearest noise sensitive premises. The method of assessment is to be in accordance with BS4142:2014. The plant and equipment shall be installed and constructed in accordance with the approved scheme and shall be permanently maintained as such thereafter. Prior to the plant being used a validation test shall be carried out following completion of the development. The use hereby permitted shall not commence until a report of the validation test has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.
  - 10) Development shall not commence until a drainage strategy has been and submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The strategy should be prepared in consultation with the sewerage undertaker and should demonstrate that the existing and proposed foul and surface water connection points and peak flow rates will have an acceptable impact on the public sewer system. The drainage strategy shall be implemented as approved before the first occupation of the development hereby permitted.
  - 11) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order, 1987, or any provision equivalent to that Class in any statutory instrument revoking and re-enacting that Order, the premises shall not be used other than as a hotel within a single planning unit.
  - 12) Prior to the installation of any electrical plant or equipment in basement levels -4 or -5, details of the installation shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The details should be prepared in consultation with Transport for London to ensure that the plant or equipment does not harm the operation of the transport system. Any plant equipment installed shall thereafter be operated and maintained in accordance with the approved details.
  - 13) The hotel hereby permitted shall not accept group bookings for parties of more than 8 people.