

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To: Development Quality Sub-Committee – 20 December 2006

From: Councillor Liz O'Malley

Re: Items 4a and 4b Hope Terrace

I am unable to attend on Wednesday morning due to a previous commitment to attend a Head Teacher's Appointments Panel. I wish therefore to ask the Committee to arrange for a visit to this important site which would enable you to see the nature of the existing building and its surroundings before reaching a conclusion.

The proposal to revert to residential use is welcome but, in support of this request for a visit, I would make the following points:

- Letters of opposition have been received, including ones from the Grange Association, the Greenhill & Church Hill Amenity Association and the Cockburn Association.
- The proposed development would neither "preserve" nor "enhance" the surrounding Conservation Area.
- The replacement of a two-storey building by a four-storey building results in a mass which, because it is attached to the original building, dominates it.
- Although the proposal matches the existing footprint, it is higher and therefore represents over-development of the site.
- The flat roof introduces a new design into the area which is not reflected in adjoining properties.
- The cedar cladding jars with surrounding materials.
- The building finishes 6 metres from the west wall, and the screening provided on the top storey is unsightly and inadequate.
- Trees will be taken down.
- The wall in Blackford Road will be breached.