

Item no
Report no

40

# Listed Building Consent Application at 12 Stafford Street Edinburgh

**Development Quality Sub-Committee** of the Planning Committee

Proposal:

Proposed alterations to change from office to medical

centre/consulting surgery.

Applicant:

Healthcare Now.

Reference No:

EH3 7AU

03/01505/LBC

# 1 Purpose of report

To recommend that the application be **GRANTED** subject to;

## Conditions

- 1. The works hereby permitted shall be commenced no later than five years from the date of this consent.
- 2. The application shall be referred to the Scottish Ministers prior to determination.
- 3. The partition/s hereby approved shall be scribed round the cornice/s, without causing damage to them, to the satisfaction of the Head of Planning & Strategy.

#### Reasons

1. In order to accord with the statutory requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Acts.

- 2. In order to accord with the statutory requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Acts.
- 3. In order to safeguard the character of the statutorily listed building.

# 2 Main report

# Site description

The application site is located to the south west of Stafford Street and is a 2-storey attic and basement building built 1819, forming part of a terrace. The property is category B listed and is located within the New Town Conservation Area and World Heritage Site.

# Site history

24.06.2003 - consent granted for change of use from office to medical centre/consulting surgery. 03/01505/FUL

## Development

The proposals involve the removal of existing internal walls and the introduction of new partition walls and doorways to form individual spaces. No external alterations are proposed.

#### **Consultations**

No consultations undertaken

### Representations

The application was advertised on 30 May 2003.

One letter of representation was received.

The AHSS objected to the proposals on the grounds that the removal of internal walls would be detrimental to character, affect the integrity of the interior and alter original room proportions.

# **Policy**

The Central Edinburgh local plan identifies the application site as lying within the Mixed Activities Zone. The property is Category B Listed and contained with the New Town Conservation Area and World Heritage Site.

## Relevant Policies:

Policy CD2 (LISTED BUILDINGS) sets out criteria for assessing proposals affecting listed buildings and seeks to safeguard their character and setting.

Non-statutory guidelines 'ALTERATIONS TO LISTED BUILDINGS' provide general guidance for assessing proposals for both internal and external alterations.

Non-statutory guidelines on 'SUB-DIVISION OF LISTED BUILDINGS' supplement local plan conservation and design policies, providing guidance on sub-division with the aim of protecting the character and appearance of listed buildings.

#### 3 Conclusions and Recommendations

#### **DETERMINING ISSUES**

The determining issues are:

- Do the proposals preserve the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses? If they do not, there is a presumption against the granting of consent;
- Do the proposals comply with the development plan?
- If the proposals do comply with the development plan, are there are any compelling reasons for not approving them?
- If the proposals do not comply with the development plan, are there any compelling reasons for approving them?

## **ASSESSMENT**

To address the determining issues, the Committee needs to consider whether the proposals have an adverse impact on the character of the listed building.

The interior of this building has been severely compromised through the removal of a number of original walls and slappings between rooms. The ground floor is completely open plan with large archways inserted between rooms. The stairwell and hall retain the majority of the building's internal character, and this space will remain unaltered. There are no original doors within this building, with the current doors made up of a variety of glazed doors.

The proposed drawings show a number of internal alterations within principal spaces, however, the interior of this building has been so severely compromised that the proposals will not adversely affect the internal character. The chimneybreasts within the principal rooms are off-centre, which clearly indicates that the original layouts no longer exist.

Some remnants of original cornice do survive, although much has been removed. A condition is recommended requesting that any new partitions are scribed around existing cornicing to ensure these elements are retained.

The proposals comply with the development plan and non-statutory policies and have no adverse impact on the character of the listed building.

There are no other material planning considerations, which outweigh this conclusion.

It is recommended that the Committee approves this application, subject to the conditions stated.

Alan Hendenon

Alan Henderson

Head of Planning and Strategy

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Ward affected 16 -Dean

Local Plan Central Edinburgh

Statutory Development Mixed Activities Zone Plan Provision

File

Date registered 12 May 2003

Drawing numbers/ 01, 02 Scheme Scheme 1

