Committee:	Date:	Classification:	Agenda Item Number:
Development	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Unrestricted	
Committee			

Report of:

Corporate Director of Development

and Renewal

Ref No: PA/15/02489

Title: Planning Application

Case Officer:

Lydia Meeson

Ward: Spitalfields and Banglatown

#### 1. **APPLICATION DETAILS**

Location: Duke of Wellington, 12-14 Toynbee Street,

London, E1 7NE

**Existing Use:** Public House (use class A4) on ground and

basement floors with ancillary residential

accommodation above.

Proposal: Renovation of the original 19c pub building

maintaining the existing Public house at ground and basement. First, second and third floors will be

converted to a boutique hotel with 11 rooms.

**Drawing and documents:** Design and Access Statement; Refuse Strategy;

187 GE\_01;

187\_EE\_00; 187\_EE\_01; 187\_EE\_02; 187\_EE\_03; 187\_ES\_00; 187\_ES\_01; 187 EX -01; 187 EX 00; 187 EX 01; 187\_EX\_02; 187\_EX\_03; 187\_GA\_-01; 187\_GA\_00; 187\_GA\_01; 187\_GA\_02; 187\_GA\_03; 187\_GA\_04; 187\_GE\_00;

187 GE 02;

187 GE 03;

187\_GS\_00; 187\_GS\_01; 187\_S\_00

Applicant: Mendoza Ltd

Ownership: Mendoza Ltd

**Historic Building:** N/A

Wentworth Street **Conservation Area:** 

### 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1. This report considers the application for the extension to the upper floors of the pub, installation of dormer windows and conversion of the ancillary accommodation to C1 (hotel) use.
- 2.2. A total of 186 representations were received in objection to this proposal. The objections can be summarised as concerns over: the perceived loss of the A4 (drinking establishments) use; the lack of justification for the need for a hotel (use class C1); the lack of provision of wheelchair accessible hotel rooms; the potential for adverse highways and amenity implications from a hotel; and harm caused to the Conservation Area through the alterations to the building.
- 2.3. Officers believe that the proposal is acceptable for the following reasons:
  - The pub and pub garden are proposed to be retained in their entirety.
  - The operation of a hotel above the pub is not considered to adversely impact the future viability of the pub.
  - The use, size and location of the hotel are appropriate within the Central Activities Zone.
  - The proposed external alterations are small in scale and the proposed materials and design details and elements are sensitive to the historic character of the existing building and Conservation Area.

### 3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. That the Committee resolve to **GRANT** planning permission subject to conditions.
- 3.2. That the Corporate Director of Development and Renewal is delegated power to impose conditions and informatives on the planning permission to secure the following matters:

#### 3.3. Conditions

- 1. Three year time limit
- 2. Development to be built in accordance with approved plans
- 3. Removal of Permitted Development Rights from A4 to any other use.
- 4. Submission of details of proposed materials
- 5. Servicing and Deliveries Strategy

### 4. PROPOSAL AND LOCATION DETAILS

### **Site and Surroundings**

4.1. The application site is located on the southern corner of the junction between Toynbee Street and Brune Street. The site comprises a three storey 19<sup>th</sup> Century building and a paved yard located to the south (with access from Toynbee Street). The ground floor of the building operates as a public house (use class A4) in addition to the open yard. The basement and upper floors of the building are used as ancillary accommodation including living accommodation for the current landlord.

4.2. The application site falls within the Central Activities Zone (CAZ) and the immediately surrounding area on Toynbee and Brune Streets comprises a mixture or residential dwellings and commercial buildings of a variety of uses (mostly retail on Toynbee Street and office on Brune Street). The buildings on these streets vary greatly in age, design and scale, and the building does not from part of any architectural cluster. No part of the site contains statutorily or locally listed buildings but the site is located in the Wentworth Street Conservation Area and the pub has been registered as an Asset of Community Value.

# **Proposal**

- 4.3. The proposal involves the following:
  - 3.4m deep side extension at second and third floors.
  - The installation of dormer windows and internal alterations to allow the conversion of the existing loft space into accommodation (no change in roof ridge height).
  - The conversion of the ancillary residential accommodation together with the new accommodation to hotel use (C1).
  - No changes are proposed to the use, structure or volume of the ground and basement floors or the pub garden.

### 5. RELEVANT PLANNING HISTORY

#### 5.1. **PA/14/03376**

The previous proposal for the redevelopment of the pub was determined at Development Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The committee unanimously resolved to refuse planning permission for:

Demolition of existing structures on land adjacent to Duke of Wellington public house and creation of a total of 5 x residential units (C3 use). Replacement outdoor area to be reconfigured to the rear of the site. External alterations to the public house to include dormer and mansard roof extension to first and second floors of building, retaining existing ridge line and mansard roof. Retention of A4 use (Drinking Establishments) on ground floor.

#### Reasons for refusal:

- 1. The proposed development would cause harm to the Wentworth Street Conservation Area. The design and appearance of the proposed modern extension would be out of character with the local area and would cause harm to the character and appearance of the Wentworth Street Conservation area and combined with the loss of the pub garden would harm the setting of other local heritage assets, including the Duke of Wellington Public House itself. This harm is not outweighed by the public benefits of the scheme and therefore the proposed development fails to comply with policies DM24 and DM27 of the Managing Development Document (2013), SP10 of the Core Strategy (201), policies 7.4 and 7.8 of the London Plan (Consolidated with Alterations since 2011) (2015), the National Planning Policy Guidance.
- 2. The proposed development would result in the loss of existing outdoor space that would undermine the future viability and vitality of the existing Duke of Wellington Pub (12-14 Toynbee Street) and thereby fail to protect its function as community infrastructure. As such, the proposal would be contrary to policy SP01 of the Core Strategy (2010), and policies DM2 and DM8 of the Managing Development Document (2013), Policy 3.1(b) of the London Plan 2015,

- National Planning Policy Framework (2010) and the National Planning Policy Guidance.
- 3. The proposed development would be detrimental to the amenity of new residents of the proposed development due to the potential for fumes and noise resulting from the close proximity of the proposed residential accommodation and the proposed smoking area and public house use and would result in increased noise and disturbance to the occupiers of existing residential properties. Therefore the proposal would be contrary to policy DM25 of the Managing Development Document (2013), the London Plan (2015), National Planning Policy Framework (2012) and the National Planning Policy Guidance.

#### 6. POLICY FRAMEWORK

6.1. For details of the status of relevant policies see the front sheet for "Planning Applications for Determination" agenda items. The following policies are relevant to the application:

### 6.2. Government Planning Policy Guidance/Statements

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) (NPPF) National Planning Practice Guidance (March 2014)

### 6.3. The London Plan - Consolidated with Alterations since 2011 (March 2015)

2.10: Central Activities Zone – Strategic Priorities

2.11: Central Activities Zone – Strategic Functions

3.16: Protection and Enhancement of Social Infrastructure

4.5: London's Visitor Infrastructure

6.9: Cycling

6.13: Parking

7.4: Local Character

7.8: Heritage Assets and Archaeology

### 6.4. Site Designations

Central Activities Zone
Wentworth Street Conservation Area

### 6.5. Tower Hamlets Core Strategy (adopted September 2010) (CS)

SP01: Refocusing on our Town Centres

SP06: Delivering Successful Employment Hubs

SP09: Creating Attractive and Safe Streets and Spaces

SP10: Creating Distinct and Durable Places

# 6.6. Managing Development Document (adopted April 2013) (MDD)

DM1: Development with the Town Centre Hierarchy

DM3: Delivering Homes

DM7: Short Stay Accommodation DM8: Community Infrastructure

DM14: Waste DM22: Parking

DM24: Local Character

DM25: Amenity

DM27: Heritage and the Historic Environment

#### 6.7. Other Relevant Documents

Wentworth Street Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Guidelines

### 7. CONSULTATION RESPONSES

- 7.1. The views of the Directorate of Development & Renewal are expressed in the MATERIAL PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS section below.
- 7.2. The following were consulted regarding the application:

# **Internal Consultees**

### **Highways and Transportation**

#### 7.3. Over-sail License

The applicant should confirm if they hold an over-sail licence for the two areas of the existing structure that over-sail the highway.

### 7.4. Servicing.

The applicant has not provided any specific details regarding a parking location for servicing vehicles and taxi drop offs, as well as the frequency of these activities. It is expected that the implementation of a hotel, albeit with 11 rooms, could still have a significant increase in net person trips. However, there is no mention as to the frequency of daily taxi pick-up/drop-offs and whether this will be done in such a way that it circumvents potential risks to safety and causing inconvenience to the local public. There are no loading bays near the site and there are a limited number of business and permit bays within the province of the subject site. Additionally, the width of the service gates of the yard, as mentioned in the Deliveries/Servicing and Access statement, is not wide enough to accommodate vehicles. Therefore, the applicant has failed to demonstrate how the hotel use will be able to operate efficiently in this regard.

### 7.5. Cycle parking.

Although the nature and class use type of the proposal does not meet the threshold for the minimum cycle parking, as per the London Plan, Highways still expects the provision of at least two cycle parking spaces, within the site. This requirement is in accordance with the Tower Hamlets Development management.

Officers Comment: These issues are discussed in the Transport and Highways section of this report

### 7.6. Environmental Health (N&V, S&P,)

No comments were received for this application, however comments raised on the previous proposal related only to the noise insulation levels required between the public house and the residential use.

### **External Consultees**

### 7.7. Spitalfields Community Association

No comments received.

# 7.8. Spitalfields Joint Planning Group

No comments received.

# 7.9. Spitalfields Society

No comments received.

# 7.10. Spitalfields Historic Buildings Trust

No comments received.

### 7.11. Historic England

"We do not consider that it is necessary for this application to be notified to Historic England"

### 7.12. Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service

Recommended no archaeological requirement

### **Public Representations**

7.13. A total of 347 planning notification letters were sent to nearby properties and persons who had made representations on the previous proposal. The application proposal was also publicised by way of a site notice and press notice. A total of 186 letters of representation were received in objection to this proposal.

### A summary of the objections received

### 7.14. Loss of the pub (use class A4):

Objectors speculated that the pub will be subsequently changed from A4 (drinking establishment) to A3 (café/restaurant) based on examples of the 'Z Hotel Group'. Objectors also believed that the concurrent operation of the hotel and pub (with guests picking up keys behind the bar) would undermine the nature of the drinking establishment and that the pub would be subservient to the hotel due to the hotel possessing a greater floorspace. Objectors also believed that there was no separate access for the hotel and therefore the pub would be used as a reception. Objectors noted that the pub is a registered Asset of Community Value and its loss should be resisted in accordance with local, regional and national policy.

### 7.15. Use of hotel (use class C1):

Objectors noted that there will be an intensification of the number of people at the building, which would result in "greatly increased pedestrian and road traffic" and raised concerns over the impact on nearby on-street parking and the use of taxis creating noise nuisance to neighbouring residents. Objectors believed that the hotel would compromise the supply of housing through the loss of the 2 bedroom ancillary flat. Objectors noted that the applicant had not justified the need for the hotel, and

believe that the area is sufficiently well-served in C1 accommodation, quoting the Annual Monitoring Report of the Council, in saying that the borough already has a 30-year supply of hotel rooms under construction and consented and that if approved, this additional hotel would result in an over-concentration of that use.

Officer comment: There is no upper limit provided within the Local Plan for hotel rooms and no identification of a 30-year supply of hotel rooms. The 2012/13 AMR records that no hotel rooms were completed within this year and 943 were approved.

### 7.16. Accessibility:

Objectors noted the lack of wheelchair accessible hotel rooms.

#### 7.17. Harm to Conservation Area:

Objectors believed the perceived loss of the public house use (A4) would be harmful to the building's character and the Conservation Area. Objectors noted that no structural assessment of the building has been supplied or construction method statement and raised concerns that the lowering of floors would cause harm to the building. Objectors also believed that the dormer windows would be out of character for the area and would be visually intrusive due to their size and colour.

### 8. MATERIAL PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

### **Land Use**

8.1. The application proposal seeks to change the use of the ancillary residential accommodation on the first and second floors to hotel (use class C1). It is proposed to retain the pub (use class A4) on the ground and basement floors in its entirety with no change in usable floorspace.

Retention of the public house (use class A4)

- 8.2. Policy DM8 of the Managing Development Document (2013) seeks to protect social and community facilities where they meet an identified local need and the buildings are considered suitable for their use, in accordance with the aims of policy 3.16 of the London Plan (2015).
- 8.3. To expand on the summary of objections in relation to the potential operators of the business: objectors believed that the business would be operated by 'Z Hotel Group' in the future, which were noted by objectors as having a number of boutique hotels with café space on the ground floor and hotel rooms above. The Z Hotel Brand was referenced on page 29 of the Design and Access Statement, but it was noted that the upper floors "... will be used as a small Boutique Hotel, similar to Z Hotel Brand which 21st directors designed" [emphasis added]. Officers consider this reference to be given in example of the potential interior design of the hotel and an example of the quality of the design standards of the applicant's Architects. It is not considered that this is a reference to the owners or leaseholders of the building, nor that any reference to the owners should prejudice a planning decision. Therefore Officers do not consider that objections in relation to the operation of Z Hotels or any speculation about potential future changes base on their other buildings can be materially considered.
- 8.4. In addition objectors believed the concurrent operation of the hotel and pub would undermine the viability of the pub. Firstly it should be noted that objectors erroneously believe that the hotel and pub have only shared access. The proposed ground floor

plan (Dwg. No. 187 GA 00) shows a separate access for hotel quests from Tovnbee Street (labelled 'hotel access') and therefore guests would not be required to enter the pub other than in checking in and checking out. Objectors raised concerns over the proposed use of the bar as a 'reception' for the hotel. Whilst the Deliveries/Servicing and Access Statement proposes that the bar staff would check in quests. Due to the small volume of rooms (11) it is not considered that this would undermine the principle use of the space as a drinking establishment. This arrangement is common across the UK in public houses which rent rooms on a short-term basis and indeed historically public houses were run as inns with rooms to let on the upper floors. In addition Officers do not consider that the relative quantities of floorspace for the two uses would result in the pub becoming subservient as this application only proposes an additional 56sqm of C1 floorspace. For these reasons, the operation of a public house and a hotel from the same site are not mutual exclusive and there are no reasons in planning terms to conclude that this proposal would undermine the viability of the pub as a drinking establishment. It should be noted that the applicant has stated both in the Design and Access Statement and on the plans that there will be no change in use of the existing pub (class A4).

- 8.5. In the previous application it was considered by members (and subsequently stated on the Decision Notice) that "the loss of the existing outdoor space would undermine the viability of the existing Duke of Wellington pub... and thereby fail to protect its function as a community asset". In response to this decision by the Development Committee this application now proposes no change to the size, location or layout of the outdoor space and therefore it is considered by Officers that the proposal would not undermine the viability of the pub as a community asset.
- 8.6. The Duke of Wellington has been listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) since 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The ability to designate an ACV came into force under the Localism Act 2011 and gives the opportunity for local groups to put a bid together to purchase the land or asset if it is put up for sale. There is no established case law on how much weight LPA's should give to an ACV when determining planning applications that could affect them. Planning applications should be determined in accordance with development plan policies and other material considerations. The fact that the building has been listed as an ACV is considered to be a material consideration and as the proposal seeks to retain the public house it would accord with this material consideration.
- 8.7. In addition, to preserve the A4 use, officers are recommending an additional step to further protect this community asset. Buildings with A4 use (drinking establishments) benefit from permitted development rights for the change of use to A1 (coffee shop) and A3 (café) under Classes A and B (respectively) of Schedule 2, Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. Officers recommend the removal (by condition) of permitted development rights under these 2 classes for this site, in order to preserve the future viability of the public house as an ACV. As a result of this removal, any future change of use of the ground and basement floors would require full planning permission, and it should be noted that current planning policy resists the loss of this use. This solution was also recommended under the previous application (PA/14/03376) and the applicant stated that they were happy to accept this condition. This condition would provide more protection for the pub than currently exists.

### Loss of residential accommodation (use class C3)

8.8. Policy DM3(5) seeks to resist the development that would result in a net loss in residential floorspace, residential units or any family housing.

8.9. The upper floors of the existing pub do not have the benefit of planning permission to be used as a single residential dwelling (use class C3) and therefore this accommodation is classed as 'ancillary' to the drinking establishment (use class A4). Whilst ancillary accommodation can be used (wholly or in part) as living accommodation for bar staff, the uses are of the primary and ancillary spaces are linked and this accommodation could also be used as office or storage space etc. Therefore it is not considered that this proposal would result in the loss of residential (C3) accommodation.

# 8.10. Provision of Hotel (use class C1)

- 8.11. Many objectors noted that the some of the rooms above the pub on the first floor are currently operating as short-term letting rooms. Were this lawful, or established by reason of time which would preclude enforcement action, this proposal would not constitute a change in use since both types of short-stay accommodation are classed as C1. However, the letting of short stay accommodation in this building does not have the benefit of planning permission or a Certificate of Lawful Use and is therefore considered to be unlawful. Thus, for clarity, Officers have assessed the scheme based on its lawful use (ancillary residential) and the change of use to hotel (use class C1).
- 8.12. Policy SP06 of the Adopted Core Strategy (2010) directs hotels towards the Central Activities Zone (CAZ), Activity Areas and major and District Centres, in accordance with policy 4.5 of the London Plan (2015).
- 8.13. Policy DM7 of the Managing Development Document (2013) seeks to promote the provision of visitor accommodation in such locations where: the size is appropriate to its location within the town centre hierarchy; there is a need for such accommodation; it would not compromise the supply of land for new homes; it would not create an over-concentration of such accommodation or cause harm to residential amenity; and there is adequate road access for vehicles undertaking setting down and picking up movements.
- 8.14. The application site is located within the CAZ and therefore is an appropriate location, in principle, for a hotel (use class C1) in accordance with policy DM7 and policy SP06, which seeks to concentrate hotels in the CAZ in order to promote tourism in the Borough.
- 8.15. The applicant has not demonstrated that there is a need for a hotel in this location, however policy 4.5 of the London plan seeks the delivery of 40,000 net additional hotel rooms by 2036. The addition of 11 rooms on this site is considered to contribute to this. This policy also supports small scale provision in locations on the fringe of the CAZ and this proposal is considered appropriate in this context. Policy DM7 does not specify what an overconcentration of hotels would be, however the closet two hotels (Brick Lane Hotel and Ibis London City on Commercial Street) are over 200m away (as the crow flies), it is not considered that 11 additional hotel rooms in this location would result in an overconcentration of this use in the area.
- 8.16. The previously refused scheme (under PA/14/03376) included a residential element which would have provided five apartments. However the reasons for refusal noted the operation of the pub and pub garden as creating adverse amenity impacts on both existing neighbouring residents and future residents of the building. In respect of this it is considered that residential accommodation would be unacceptable in principle on this site whilst the pub operates. Therefore the provision of a hotel in this location would not compromise the supply of land for new homes.

8.17. Toynbee Street is not particularly narrow (accommodating on-street parking on both sides of the street and one way traffic) and although Brune Street is narrower (on-street parking on one side only), it is considered that both of these streets could accommodate taxi pickups and drop offs for this small number of hotel rooms.

### Design

- 8.18. Policy DM24 of the Managing Development Document (2013) seeks high quality design in development, sensitive to the character of the surrounding area in terms of its use of materials, design details and building lines. This is supported by policy SP10 of the Adopted Core Strategy (2010) and policy 7.4 of the London Plan (2015).
- 8.19. Policy DM27 of the Managing Development Document (2013) seeks the preservation and enhancement of the Borough's heritage assets, including Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas, in accordance with policy SP10 of the Adopted Core Strategy (2010) and policy 7.8 of the London Plan (2015). It specifies that development within a heritage asset will only be approved where it does not have an adverse impact on the character, fabric or identity of the heritage asset, and requires development to be appropriate in terms of design, details and materials in the local context.
- 8.20. The previous application was refused due to the design of the modern appearance of the extension being harmful to the character and appearance of the Wentworth Street Conservation Area. This element has been removed in the current scheme and the only current proposed changes to the appearance of the building are the small side extension (on the Brune Street elevation) and the installation of dormer windows.
- 8.21. It should be noted that these alterations were proposed in the previous applications and Members raised no objections to their appearance or effect on the Conservation Area. Officer's therefore believe that the design proposed under this application would be appropriate within the Conservation Area since the extension would be modest in scale and the proposed materials and design details strongly reflect the existing style of this non-designated heritage asset. Objections received raised concern that the proposed dormers would be out of character with the Conservation Area and visually intrusive due to their size and colour. It should be noted that there is an existing former window with the roof currently, so it is not considered that these would cause any harm to the character of the building and would preserve the appearance of the Conservation Area. In addition the proposed use of white painted timber frames is considered to be sensitive to the character of both the Conservation Area (in its use of traditional materials) and the host building (reflecting the existing white painted timber windows).
- 8.22. Objectors noted that no structural assessment of the building has been supplied and raised concerns that the lowering of floors would cause harm to the building. Where buildings are not statutorily listed, the preservation of the internal layouts and materials cannot be given weight when considering matters of conservation. In accordance with this the Local Planning Authority does not require structural assessments on proposals which would not affect a statutorily listed building (either the site itself or a nearby building or structure). The only effects on a designated heritage asset (the Wentworth Street Conservation Area) under this application arise from the external alterations from the building. In this instance neither Historic England, the borough conservation officer or any of the local conservation groups raised any objections to the proposed scheme.

### **Amenity**

- 8.23. Policy DM25 of the Managing Development Document (2013) seeks to protect the amenity of neighbouring residents and building occupiers from the impacts of new development in accordance with policy SP10 of the Adopted Core Strategy (2010). These policies require development to not result in an unacceptable loss of daylight, sunlight, outlook or privacy in addition to not resulting in unacceptable levels of noise during the construction and life of the development.
- 8.24. Since there is no proposed change in the ridge height of the roof it is not considered that the proposal would result in a material loss of daylight or sunlight at neighbouring properties. In addition since the existing building is offset from the east façade of the neighbouring building on Brune Street (Carter House), it is not considered that the proposed extension would result in a loss of outlook or privacy at those dwellings either. In addition there are no residential windows facing the north façade of the building, and therefore the installation of dormer windows is also not considered to result in a loss of privacy for neighbours.
- 8.25. Objectors raised concerns that the hotel use would create noise disturbance for neighbouring residents through the slamming of taxi doors. It is not considered that the use of taxis would cause any significant material increase in noise or disturbance than the use of the pub garden until 10pm on weekdays and until midnight on Saturdays. Residents of Carter House had previously sent a letter of representation in support of the previously proposed reduction in size of the pub garden as they believed that this would reduce noise levels and improve their amenity. In light of this Officers are of the opinion that there are currently high levels of noise in this area at night and that the small increase in persons arriving and leaving the building would not materially worsen the existing situation, since the hotel users would likely remain inside once arrived.

### Accessibility

8.26. Policy 4.5 of the London Plan (2015) seeks the provision of 10% of hotel rooms as wheelchair accessible. For this proposal to comply with this, it should provide at least one of the proposed hotel rooms as wheelchair accessible. Objections received raised concerns over the lack of provision of wheelchair accessible hotel rooms in the scheme. It is considered that in order to achieve this the layout of the ground floor would have to be revised to accommodate a lift. This would reduce the usable floorspace for the pub and is considered to undermine the future viability of the drinking establishment which has been of fundamental importance in the refusal of the previous application and has been of concern to objectors on this new application. On balance, the lack of provision of one wheelchair accessible hotel room is considered to be acceptable in this instance.

### **Transport and Highways**

# Servicing and Delivery

8.27. Policy SP09(3) of the Core Strategy seeks to ensure new development has no adverse impact on the safety and capacity of the road network. Concerns have been raised that this proposal would result in an increase in road traffic due to taxi pickups and set downs. However the site has excellent accessibility to public transport (PTAL 6b) and it is considered that many of the users of the hotel would travel to and from the site via public transport; particularly with the potential opening of the night tube and the future Crossrail services from Liverpool Street. In addition due to the small

- size of the hotel it is not considered that the volume of those who might use taxis would result in a significant impact on the capacity of Toynbee Street or Brune Street.
- 8.28. The Borough's Highways Officer raised concern that the applicant had not provided sufficient detail of the servicing and delivery arrangements for the proposed hotel. They noted that the surrounding street network has no loading bays and limited business and permit bays. In addition they noted that the width of the gates of the yard (mentioned in the Deliveries/servicing and Access Statement) is too narrow to accommodate vehicles. It is noted that the pub garden has been located in what would historically have been the service yard, there is therefore no intention to use the yard for delivery vehicles.
- 8.29. A condition requiring details of servicing and deliveries would be requested prior to the commencement of the use. There are double yellow lines outside the premises on both Brune Street and Toynbee Street which loading and unloading can occur from. These spaces are currently used for the deliveries to the pub. It is unlikely that the small number of hotel rooms would generate a significant degree of servicing as it would be mainly the delivery and collection of linen.

### Car & Cycle Parking

- 8.30. The NPPF and Policies 6.1 and 6.9 of the London Plan (2011), Policy SP09 (4) of the Core Strategy (2011) and Policies DM20 and DM22 of the Managing Development document (2013) seeks to ensure development proposals promote sustainable modes of transport and accessibility, and reduce the need to travel by car.
- 8.31. The Parking Addendum to chapter 6 of the London Plan (2015) states that there is no vehicle parking requirement for hotels, but that in areas with good access to public transport (PTAL 4-6) on-site provision of vehicle parking should be limited to operational needs. The proposal does not include any on site vehicle parking, however since the site has an excellent Public Transport Accessibility Rating (PTAL 6a), this is considered appropriate.
- 8.32. The Parking Addendum to chapter 6 of the London Plan (2015) also sets minimum cycle parking provision standards. For C1 (hotel) use 1 cycle space per 20 bedrooms should be provided. The Borough's Highways Officer noted the lack of cycle parking provision and stated that they would expect a minimum of two spaces to be provided. However the London Plan (2015) only requires a minimum of two cycle spaces to be provided where the minimum threshold is met. Cycle storage could be provided internally, however the accommodation of this would reduce the useable floorspace of the pub and is considered to undermine the future viability of the drinking establishment which has been of fundamental importance in the refusal of the previous application and has been of concern to objectors on this new application. Therefore Officers consider that the lack of cycle parking provision is not contrary to policy and is therefore acceptable in this instance.

# Refuse and Recyclables Storage

- 8.33. Policy SP05 in the adopted Core Strategy (2010) states developments which are likely to produce significant quantities of waste must include adequate arrangements for its collection and storage. This is further emphasised by policy DM14 of the Managing Development Document.
- 8.34. The applicant proposes to store waste in the bins currently located in the yard and states in their Delivery/Servicing and Access Statement that they do not believe that

the operation of a hotel would result in a significant increase in waste. Officers note however that the bins are often located on the street rather than in the yard and any increase in number of containers would reduce facility of movement on the pavement and be unattractive on the street. However it is acknowledged that many properties on Toynbee Street are serviced using on-street sack collection, and that this small increase in waste and the potential for an additional container is not sufficiently undesirable as to warrant the refusal of this application.

#### 9. HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1. In determining this application, the Council is required to have regard to the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998. In the determination of a planning application, the following are particularly highlighted to Members:-
- 9.2. Section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998 prohibits authorities (including the Council as local planning authority) from acting in a way which is incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. "Convention" here means the European Convention on Human Rights, certain parts of which were incorporated into English Law under the Human Rights Act 1998. Various Conventions rights are likely to relevant including:
  - Entitlement to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an
    independent and impartial tribunal established by the law in the determination of
    a person's civil and political rights (Convention Article 6). This includes property
    rights and can include opportunities to be heard in the consultation process;
  - Rights to respect for private and family life and home. Such rights may be restricted if the infringement is legitimate and fair and proportionate in the public's interest (Convention Article 8); and
  - Peaceful enjoyment of possession (including property). This does not impair the
    right to enforce such laws as the State deems necessary to control the use of
    property in accordance with the general interest (First Protocol, Article 1). The
    European Court has recognised that "regard must be had to the fair balance
    that has to be struck between competing interests of the individual and of the
    community as a whole"
- 9.3. This report has outlined the consultation that has been undertaken on the planning application and the opportunities for people to make representations to the Council as local planning authority.
- 9.4. Members need to satisfy themselves that the measures which are proposed to be taken to minimise, inter alia, the adverse effects of noise, construction and general disturbance are acceptable and that any potential interference with Article 8 rights will be legitimate and justified.
- 9.5. Both public and private interests are to be taken into account in the exercise of the Council's planning authority's power and duties. Any interference with a Convention right must be necessary and proportionate.
- 9.6. Members must, therefore, carefully consider the balance to be struck between individual rights and the wider public interest.
- 9.7. As set out above, it is necessary, having regard to the Human Rights Act 1998, to take into account any interference with private property rights protected by the European

- Convention on Human Rights and ensure that the interference is proportionate and in the public interest.
- 9.8. In this context, the balance to be struck between individual rights and the wider public interest has been carefully considered. Officers consider that any interference with Convention rights is justified.

#### 10. EQUALITIES

- 10.1. The Equality Act 2010 provides that in exercising its functions (which includes the functions exercised by the Council as Local Planning Authority), that the Council as a public authority shall amongst other duties have due regard to the need to-
  - eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act;
  - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 10.2. The protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. The Equality Act acknowledges that compliance with the duties set out may involve treating some persons more favourably than others, but that this does not permit conduct that would otherwise be prohibited under the Act.
- 10.3. The London Plan (2015) requires 10% of hotel rooms to be wheelchair accessible. This application does not proposed any wheelchair accessible rooms (the provision of 1 room would be policy compliant), however it is considered that in order to do so floorspace from the pub would have to be sacrificed, which may undermine the future viability of the pub (which was previously considered reason for refusal).

### 11. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1. Section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) requires that in determining planning applications, the authority shall have regard to (amongst other things) any local finance considerations, so far as material to the application.
- 11.2. Section 70(4) defines "local finance consideration" as:
  - A grant or other financial assistance that has been, or will or could be, provided to a relevant authority by a Minister of the Crown; or
  - Sums that a relevant authority has received, or will or could receive, in payment of Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 11.3. Members are reminded that that the London Mayoral CIL became operational from 1 April 2012 and that Borough's Community Infrastructure Levy came into on 1st April 2015. Both of which are payable (subject to certain exceptions) on floorspace created by development. This proposal does not meet the threshold for LBTH CIL as it is only proposed to create 56sqm of additional floorspace.

# 12. CONCLUSION

12.1. All other relevant policies and considerations have been taken into account. Planning permission should be **approved** for the reasons set out in RECOMMENDATION section of this report.

