

By email
11 March 2024

Manchester City Council
Planning,
Manchester City Council,
P O Box 532,
Manchester,
M60 2LA

Ref: PP-12773153

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed National Transgender Monument at Sackville Gardens, Manchester

This letter accompanies the submission of a full planning application on behalf of Sparkle: The National Transgender Charity (Sparkle) to support a planning application for a new National Transgender Monument, which will be a replacement for the current Monument, which was damaged by fire in 2022 at Sackville Gardens, Manchester. The proposed description of development is as follows:

“Erection of a free-standing Monument and associated landscaping”

The application has been submitted via Planning Portal (PP-12773153), and the requisite planning application fee of £642.00 has been paid directly via the Planning Portal.

As a result of both damage to the National Transgender Memorial in 2022, and owing to a desire for a Monument that encapsulates the full scope of transgender lives and experiences, Sparkle, as community custodians for the Memorial, commissioned the development of a new design.

The Monument’s proposed location within Sackville Gardens has been informed through consultation with both Manchester City Council (MCC) Officers and Friends of Sackville Gardens, as custodians of the Gardens. It has also been developed with a view to the feedback and wishes of the trans+ community as expressed through a consultation exercise in 2022/2023.

The application submission has been informed through conversations with Officers at MCC, and the scope of documents required to support the submission has been agreed in advance of the application being finalised.

The application comprises the following documentation:

Document	Document Reference
Application Form	N/A
Covering Letter	This document
Planning Statement	Arup, dated 11 March 2024

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Document	Document Reference
Design and Access Statement	New Practice (dated February 2024)
Preliminary Ground Conditions Report	Central Alliance (ref: FAC-01)
Heritage Statement	AECOM (dated February 2024)
Arboricultural Report	Mott MacDonald (ref: 100HRETEX-MMD-00-XX-RP-TM-0001, Rev B)
Drawing	Drawing Reference
Location Plan	23006- LO(P)-1000-Rev A
Proposed site plan	23006-GA(P)-001-Rev A
Existing site plan	23006-EX(S)-100-Rev A
Proposed section A & B	23006-GA(S)-100-Rev A
Existing section A & B	23006-EX(P)-001-Rev A
Detail Design - Sculptural Groundworks	23006-DE(P)-101-Rev A
Detail Section - Sculptural Uprights	23006- DE(S)-100-Rev A

Summary

The proposal is considered to be fully in accordance with national and local planning policy, and should therefore be approved by MCC for the following reasons:

- The proposals have been subject to pre-application consultation with both MCC and FoSG, and have been designed to address and respond to the feedback received;
- The proposals have been designed to addresses the design principles, reinforces and enhances the local character of that part of the City and the Gardens. The design of the Monument has been developed with consideration given to effects upon landscape and give regard to impacts of the character of the surrounding area;
- The proposal's design accords with the requirements set out in national and local policy, and has been developed and designed sympathetically to its surrounding context in order to compliment the site's surroundings and be reflective of its location within Whitworth Street Conservation Area;
- The submitted Arboricultural Report sets out measures including the installation of protection measures, and confirms that no trees have been identified for removal. It also sets out measures that must followed during installation of the foundation slab to minimise any impact on these tree. Through the implementation of these measures, the proposals can seek to minimise or avoid impact on existing trees; and,

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- The submitted Heritage Statement sets out that the proposed development would preserve those aspects of setting that make a positive contribution to significance of the heritage assets. The proposed development would not harm the character and appearance of the Whitworth Street Conservation Area nor harm the special architectural or historic interest of the identified listed buildings.

The proposal is considered to fully accord with planning policy and should therefore be approved by MCC in accordance with Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. I trust that the above and enclosed will enable validation and favourable consideration of the application.

Yours sincerely



Euan Connolly
Senior Planner

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