



9 February 2024

Planning Registry
Planning and Property Development Department
Block 4, Floor 0
Civic Offices, Wood Quay
Dublin 8

Part 8 – Mansion House Universal Access Works, Dawson Street, Dublin 2.

Please find enclosed documents relating to the above Part 8 application for proposed universal access works to the Mansion House.

Dublin City Council recognises the need for equality of access for everybody to all aspects of the built and external environment as an essential prerequisite of equal opportunities and the development of an inclusive society (DCC Development Plan).

The Mansion House is located in the Dublin South East Area Committee area of Dublin City Council.

The project is located at the Mansion House, Dawson Street, Dublin 2, within the curtilage of a complex of extraordinary civic buildings, comprising of The Mansion House, The Round Room and the Supper Room, considered a site of national and international importance. The buildings are listed as Protected Structures and the Mansion House is a Recorded Monument.

The Round Room can accommodate up to 700 visitors and the Oak Room in the Mansion House accommodates up to 100 visitors; both are in very regular use for public, including community groups, and private functions.

The current accessibility to the route to the shared Round Room and Mansion House/Oak Room entrance, provided by an external platform lift, is unsatisfactory and has caused interruption to access to the Mansion House, Oak Room and Round Room. A multi-disciplinary design team led by an RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architect was appointed to design an improved universal access.

The proposed works consist of the following:

- 1) New external approach route to Oak Room & Round Room shared Entrance Vestibule, to include the removal of existing modern steps and existing raised approach route from Dawson Street to the Entrance Vestibule of the Room Oak & Round Room, located between the Mansion House and the Lord Mayor's Garden. The existing raised approach route will be replaced by a new downwards gently sloped approach route, to a new level one storey below the existing. Removal of existing railings and light well wall to northern side of the Mansion House. Adjustment of modern railings between the approach route and the Lord Mayor's Garden. Provision of new external stairs leading from terrace of Supper Room down to the Lord Mayor's Garden, landing at the southeast corner of the existing garden. Provision of a new Juliet Balcony to existing external double doors to the Lady Mayoress's

Parlour at North elevation at Ground Floor level of the Mansion House. Localised adjustment to modern paving at northeast corner of forecourt to Mansion House.

- 2) Alterations to existing Oak Room & Round Room Entrance Vestibule to include new public entrance one storey below existing. This work includes the adaption of the existing Entrance Vestibule space from single storey to new double height (in part) Entrance Foyer encompassing a section of the existing basement beneath, new lower storey addition to its main front elevation. The new lower part of the elevation will contain the proposed new main entrance to the Foyer accessed from the proposed new approach route. Proposed new roof at existing location, proposed new single roof light to replace existing three roof lights. Provision of new internal passenger lift and staircase between the new lower ground floor level and existing upper ground floor level. Alteration to the interior expression to include new wall panelling, ceilings and floors. Relocation of existing double doors between Oak Room of Mansion House and New Entrance Foyer along same wall. Adjustment of door set between the Supper Room and New Entrance Foyer.
- 3) Provision of a new passenger lift within The Mansion House. The works will include a new lift shaft and lift car to serve lower ground, upper ground and first floors of the Mansion House. Lowering of existing window at lower ground floor, to provide new accessible entrance door at lower ground floor level along the northern wall of The Mansion House. This new entrance door will be accessed directly off new sloped approach route. Alteration to room layouts at lower ground floor to provide circulation route to lift. Alteration to internal wall at upper ground floor to provide door opening into lift. Provision new door opening in First Floor external wall to rear of Mansion House to accommodate access to lift. Provision of a second new door opening along same wall at First Floor to allow egress at this location.
- 4) Addition of new Mechanical Ventilation Plant and Screen to flat roof at rear of Supper Room and all other associated site works.

Consultation Technical Departments:

As per the Part 8 process, pre Part 8 circulation has taken place and observations and submissions from the DCC Technical Departments have been incorporated into the development.

Information to the Local Area Committee:

A presentation of this proposal with detailed information was given to the South East Area Committee on 10th July 2023.

Internal Steering Group:

An internal expert Steering Group for the project is in place, comprising of the following members:

- Chair: Ruth Dowling, Senior Executive Officer, Chief Executive's Department (Sponsor)
- Miriam Walsh, Administrative Officer (A), Lord Mayor's Office
- Lenzie O'Sullivan, Senior Architect, City Architect's Department/ RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architect
- Garrett Hughes, Senior Planner, Planning and Property Development Department
- Niamh Kiernan, Senior Executive Architectural Conservation Officer, Heritage, Archaeology & Conservation Section/ RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architect
- Bronagh Corry, Senior Executive Officer, Planning & Property Management
- Pat Nestor, Senior Building Surveyor, Building Control Division & Access Officer
- Brian Hanney, Area Manager for South East Inner City and Pembroke LEAs

The Steering Group fully endorses the proposed universal access works to the Mansion House as contained in this Part 8 Application.

Consultation with External Stakeholders:

Extensive consultation was carried out with external stakeholders, on the following dates:

Disability Thematic Group, incl. IWA Irish Wheelchair Association:

01.12.2016; 25.01.2019; 30.03.2021; 23.08.2021

PPN (Public Participation Networks) Presentation (various external stakeholders):

30.03.2021

DCC Protocol Committee Meetings:

27.02.2019; 27.01.2022; 23.02.2023

South East Area Committee Meetings:

13.03.2023 & 10.07.2023

Tenant Supper & Round Room meetings:

30.03.2021; 20.09.2021; 30.05.2023; 04.07.2023; 25.07.2023; 11.01.2024

Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht:

30.03.2021; 17.01.2022

Irish Georgian Society:

30.03.2021

Neighbours:

30.03.2021; 28.06.2023

Update issued to external stakeholders on 03.04.2023

The proposed universal access works to the Mansion House, designed by Blackwood Associates Architects (RIAI Conservation Architects Grade 1), will improve and enhance the existing building complex and its facilities so that the buildings can be accessed safely and used by all people regardless of their age, ability or disability.



Richard Shakespeare
Chief Executive

