

Report Title: Lambs House, Edinburgh
Issue Date: 25th March 2008
Client/Developer: EDI
Lead Designer: C² WTa
Local Authority: City of Edinburgh Council
Location: Edinburgh
Planning Ref: 08/00415/FUL
Details: Proposals for alteration and conversion of A Listed, Lamb's House, Water Street, Edinburgh to residential apartments and construction of new adjacent residential / office building

25th March 2008

Head of Planning & Strategy
The City of Edinburgh Council



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Dear Sir

Edinburgh – Lamb's House – Planning Ref. 08/00415/FUL

We refer to your consultation request dated 18th February 2008, enclosing details of the current application. The designs were discussed at an Internal Design Review meeting on 11th March 2008. Karen Cadell and Dorian Wiszniewski are A+DS Board Members who also have an involvement as designers for this project. Neither of them had any prior knowledge that the project was to be reviewed, nor has there been any opportunity for them to influence A+DS's opinion.

We offer the following comments in response to an email from the City of Edinburgh Council planning case officer dated 7th March 2008 raising specific concerns. Our comments are based on information publicly available on the Council's website.

We generally support the proposed designs, and consider that a contemporary interpretation of the medieval grain is a valid design response. In our opinion, the principle of a new building that overlaps the frontage of Lamb's House to the extent shown is acceptable, and appropriate for the setting of the listed building. We do not consider the designs to be too complex or unfriendly at pedestrian level.

A+DS aims to raise the quality of new development so that high standards of design are the rule, not the exception. Design Review offers independent expert advice on the quality of design for selected projects, and Ministers attach great importance to the Design Review process. The development industry, as well as decision makers on planning applications and appeals, must demonstrate what account has been taken of the views of A+DS in coming to a view on how to proceed.

I would be grateful if you would keep A+DS informed of the progress of this planning application.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the design team.

Yours sincerely

Eric Dawson
Acting Head of Design Review

Cc (by email)
City of Edinburgh Council
Historic Scotland
EDI