MARSDEN MECHANICS - NEW WINDOWS TO OFFICE

Access Statement in support of the Application for Listed Building Consent.

1 Introduction

This document is prepared by Adrian Lord A.R.I.B.A, who is a Retired Architect, with thirty-five years in professional practice, and is now a Trustee of Marsden Community Trust (the Applicant).

2 History and Background

Access to Marsden Mechanics Institute is facilitated by one main entrance on the side of the building facing south through an existing conservatory. The principal façade to Peel Street has restricted access due to the proximity of the existing road structure, and is only used as an emergency exit. The whole building is fully accessible to disabled people, with a newly refurbished lift providing access to the first-floor main hall. The introduction of the notices to which this application relates will have no impact on this accessibility and is hoped to increase footfall by improving information available to the community about events taking place in the building.

3 Design Considerations

The proposed new windows are located on the East Elevation and access to the site will be gained from the passage between the Mechanics and the adjacent Infants School. In view of this passage affording fire escape from the school it will be necessary for work to be facilitated on a raised scaffolding giving 2.0 meters clear headroom. This will be accessed from Brougham Road and the working platform will be situated immediately below the new sill level for the new windows. Alternatively, the windows can be installed when the school is closed, i.e. at night or during holiday periods.

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