



Board Direction

Ref: PL29N.242067

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a meeting of all available Board members held on 14th November 2013.

The Board decided by a majority of 7 to 2 to refuse permission in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations.

1. The proposed development would be partly located within the Garden of Remembrance at Parnell Square which is a designated Conservation Area in the Dublin City Development Plan, 2011 to 2017. The design and conception of the garden rely on an axial layout which directs attention towards the raised podium containing the Lir statue. The proposed development, which would introduce a new opening directly on this axis would detract from the architectural coherence of the space, would damage its legibility and would significantly transform the nature of the space from that which was originally conceived. The proposal would therefore seriously detract from the amenity of the space and would conflict with policy FC26 of the Development Plan which seeks to protect and conserve the city's cultural and built heritage and policy FC41 of the Dublin City Development Plan which seeks to protect and conserve the special interest and character of Conservation Areas. The proposal therefore would not be in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development.
2. The Garden of Remembrance is a State memorial which is used for State ceremonial occasions and in this regard it is of national importance. Having regard to the location of the proposed development to the rear of the raised podium, the proposed physical connection between a second unrelated memorial and the existing memorial by way of a passageway under the raised podium, the removal of the central section of the podium steps which form part of the processional route through the Garden of Remembrance, and the overlapping nature of the two memorials, it is considered, notwithstanding the importance of the creation of a memorial to commemorate the victims of institutional abuse, that the proposed development would have an adverse impact on the setting, character and function of the Garden of Remembrance. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Board Member: _____ Date: 21st November 2013

Michael Leahy