

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Dublin City Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 5492/22

Appeal by Dublin Civic Trust care of Graham Hickey of 18 Ormond Quay Upper, Dublin and by An Post care of Doyle Kent Planning Partnership Limited of 71 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, County Dublin against the decision made on the 23rd day of February, 2023 by Dublin City Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to An Post in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Retention of two existing external banners for a further temporary period of three years at the main entrance portico of the G.P.O on O'Connell Street (as per planning register reference number 3290/19, An Bord Pleanála appeal reference number ABP-305376-19). The banners are to identify the "GPO MUSEUM WITNESS HISTORY" located in the public exhibition area. The banners are suspended between two pairs of columns at the portico, facing toward O'Connell Street. The banners measure 6.500 metres high and 2.500 metres wide, are suspended approximately 4.750 metres clear above ground level, are composed of semi-transparent mesh fabric and supported off stainless steel non-invasive fixings on the stone columns at top and bottom; all at the G.P.O., Lower O'Connell Street, Dublin (the G.P.O. is a protected structure).

WGA

Decision

GRANT permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the limited nature and scale of the development and in particular the site specific nature and purpose of the proposed banners to advertise the Witness History Visitor Centre which highlights the cultural, historical and social special interest of the G.P.O. building, and to the policies of the planning authority, as set out in the Dublin City Development Plan 2022 – 2028, to promote tourism within the city, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development proposed to be retained would not detract significantly from the character and setting of the landmark Protected Structure or the O'Connell Street Architectural Conservation Area and would not seriously injure the visual amenities of the area or the amenities of property in the vicinity. The development proposed to be retained would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

1. The development shall be retained in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority and the development shall be retained in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. The permission for the banner signs shall be for a period of eighteen months from the date of this Order at which date, the permission shall cease and the banner signs shall be removed, and the building returned to its former state unless a further permission has been granted before the expiry of that date.

Reason: To allow for a review of the development having regard to the circumstances then pertaining and in the interest of visual amenity.

3. The two banner signs shall be removed for the duration of any formal State commemoration services which feature the G.P.O. building.

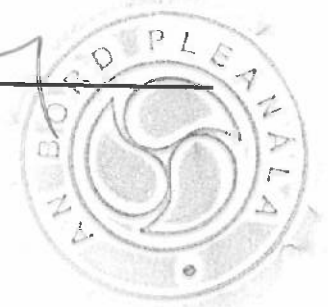
Reason: To maintain the architectural and historic integrity of this protected structure during events of national significance.

4. (a) A conservation expert shall be employed to manage, monitor and implement the works on the site and to ensure adequate protection of the retained and historic fabric during the works. In this regard, all permitted works shall be designed to cause minimum interference to the retained building and façade structure and fabric.
- (b) All works to the protected structure will be carried out in accordance with best conservation practice as detailed in the application and the Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in 2011.
- (c) All signage hereby permitted shall be properly maintained at all times, with any visible damage or decay being repaired at the earliest possible opportunity.

Reason: To ensure that the integrity of the protected structure is maintained and protected from unnecessary damage or loss of fabric.



Martina Hennessy
Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.



Dated this 24th day of July 2023.