

Liveable City.F Leatham.MJ
Reference: P0608
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21 May 2012

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Dear Ms Fu

NEWCASTLE MUSEUM - ENTRANCE GATES - MP06_0083 MOD 2

Following on from the correspondence regarding Newcastle Museum entry gates, as previously outlined in the revised submission to Department of Planning (19/12/2011) The City of Newcastle confirm that there is no alternative option which will adequately address the security of the entrance forecourt of the Museum, while allowing an element of visibility into the site.

The City of Newcastle maintains the need for the security to the site in the nominated areas to protect our glazed entry doors and secure our courtyard area after hours. The gates are an essential component of the Museum's security plan. The area created between the existing buildings and the new foyer defines a large courtyard space. This area gives direct access to the glass front doors which, because of their design, do not provide the levels of security one would expect for a museum and its collections.

The area is popular with the patrons of late-night venues in the immediate vicinity and has in the past been a focus for anti-social behaviour. As part of the need to protect the buildings and the public amenity it is crucial that the enclosed area not be open to public access in the early hours. The small spaces created beside the new structure, placed for heritage interpretation, are particularly vulnerable and these need to be secured when the museum is closed.

The gates have been designed to work with both the heritage industrial site as well as providing a link to the design of the new architecture. The location of these gates is paramount to the three entry points and will seek to enforce our surveillance and secure the premises as required.

We seek the Departments endorsement and approval of the revised gates in keeping with the industrial heritage integrated with the new contemporary architecture.

Yours faithfully

Fiona Leatham
SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER
NEWCASTLE MUSEUM REDEVELOPMENT