

From: Jessica Gibbons, Programme Director for HS2  
To: Roger Hargreaves  
CC: Simon Pitkeathley, Rupert Walker

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12<sup>th</sup> February 2015

Dear Roger Hargreaves,

### **Camden Collective Meanwhile Use Proposal for the National Temperance Hospital**

I write in support of the Camden Town Unlimited (CTU) meanwhile use proposal for the National Temperance Hospital (110-122 Hampstead Road, London, NW1 2LJ) on behalf of the London Borough of Camden.

Camden Council remains opposed to HS2. However, if the Government goes ahead with the scheme, Camden is committed to fighting for the best deal for our communities.

Temporary use of vacant buildings and spaces resulting from HS2 forms one of the Council's mitigation asks of HS2 Ltd. This mitigation is required to minimise the blight of vacant buildings in the local area and the community by providing temporary occupancy to maintain an active use and local economy, in the run up to and during HS2 construction.

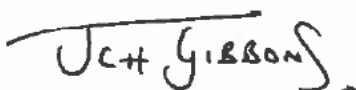
The National Temperance Hospital is blighted by HS2. Whilst the premises has been vacant for a number of years, any potential refurbishment and/or redevelopment of the site is now unlikely to come forward due to the HS2 safeguarding designation and proposals for the demolition of the building resulting from HS2.

CTU's proposal for the temporary use of the premises would satisfy the Council's meanwhile use mitigation objectives in respect of this site. It would provide an active commercial/community use for the building at the heart of the community impacted by HS2. In addition, the project would create opportunities to promote start-up businesses and innovation by providing much needed affordable workspace, training and employment opportunities.

The Council supports CTU's proposal as one element of an essential package of mitigation. The Council's support for the proposal should not preclude the delivery of other essential mitigation or meanwhile use mitigation at additional HS2 blighted sites, nor should it be seen as support for the HS2 scheme, to which we remain opposed.

The Council is already partnered with CTU through the award winning Camden Collective project. If agreed, the proposal for the National Temperance Hospital could form part of the next phase of this successful project. The Council endorsed CTU's application to the GLA's High Street Fund and has offered to partner with CTU as an accountable body.

Yours sincerely,



Jessica Gibbons,  
Programme Director for HS2, London Borough of Camden