

CITY OF WESTMINSTER			
PLANNING APPLICATIONS SUB COMMITTEE	Date 2 October 2018	Classification For General Release	
Addendum Report of Director of Planning		Ward(s) involved St James's	
Subject of Report	Parliament Square, London, SW1P 3JX,		
Proposal	A memorial to Emmeline Pankhurst in the form of a bronze statue on stone plinth set within the existing memorials on the west side of Parliament Square Gardens.		
Agent	Mr O'Connor		
On behalf of	Sir Neil Thorne		
Registered Number	17/04187/FULL	Date amended/ completed	27 June 2017
Date Application Received	12 May 2017		
Historic Building Grade	Unlisted		
Conservation Area	Westminster Abbey And Parliament Square		

## 1. RECOMMENDATION

In light of the previous committee resolution and the subsequent opposition to, and withdrawal of, the separate application to remove/ relocate the existing statue of Emmeline Pankhurst from Victoria Tower Gardens, does the Committee consider that the proposal for a second memorial in the vicinity of the existing statue is acceptable?

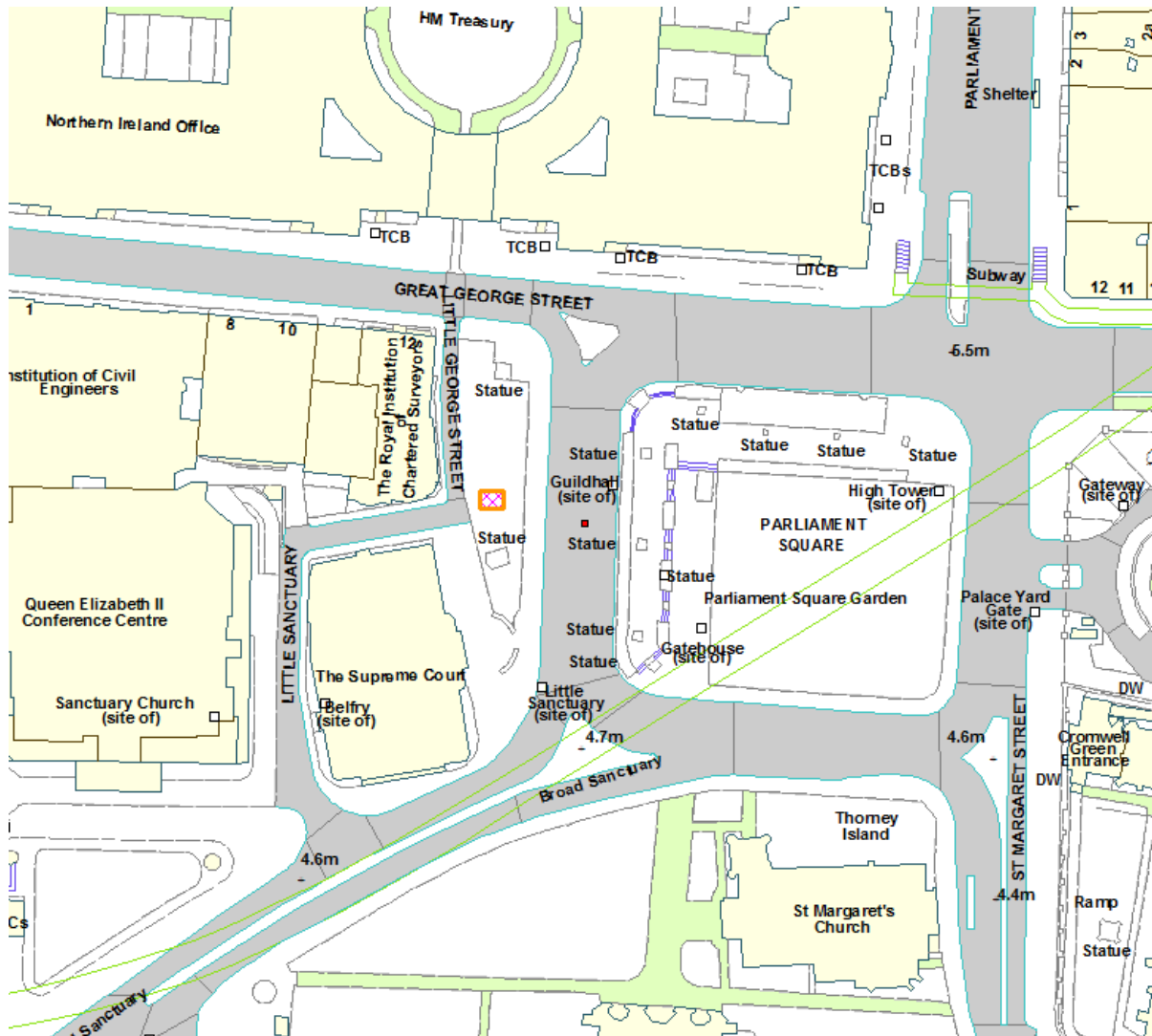
## 2. SUMMARY

This application was reported to the Planning Applications Sub-Committee on 19 September 2017 with a recommendation for refusal. The Committee was supportive of the proposal but resolved to defer consideration to enable the applicant to submit a separate proposal for the relocation of the existing Emmeline Pankhurst memorial from nearby Victoria Tower Gardens, with both applications to be reported back to the Committee for consideration.

Applications for planning permission and listed building consent, to relocate the existing statute from Victoria Tower Gardens to a site in Regent's Park, were submitted in August 2018. Over 800 individual objections and a petition signed by 178,929 people were received. The applicant withdrew these applications on 14 September.

Consequently, the original application is being reported back to back to Committee for further consideration.

### 3. LOCATION PLAN



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#### 4. PHOTOGRAPHS



## 5. CONSULTATIONS

No additional consultation

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS RECEIVED SINCE THE ORIGINAL REPORT WAS  
PUBLISHED AND REPORTED TO THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS  
SUB-COMMITTEE ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

Total No. of replies: 19

No. in support: 10

No. of objections: 9

REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE APPLICATION WAS REPORTED TO  
THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2017.

Total No. of replies: 152

No. in support: 2

No. of objections: 150

RELEVANT COMMENTS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THE SUBSEQUENT  
APPLICATIONS (SINCE WITHDRAWN) FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE EXISTING  
MEMORIAL

Total No. of replies: 16

No. in support: 1

No. of objections: 15

PRESS ADVERTISEMENT / SITE NOTICE: Yes

(Please note: All the application drawings and other relevant documents and Background  
Papers are available to view on the Council's website)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS REPORT PLEASE CONTACT THE PRESENTING  
OFFICER: SARA SPURRIER BY EMAIL AT [sspurrier@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:sspurrier@westminster.gov.uk).



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

# MINUTES

## Planning Applications Sub-Committee (2)

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **Planning Applications Sub-Committee (2)** Committee held on **Tuesday 19th September, 2017**, Room 3.1, 3rd Floor, 5 Strand, London, WC2 5HR.

**Members Present:** Councillors Richard Beddoe (Chairman), Paul Church, Gotz Mohindra and Jason Williams

**Also Present:** Councillor Louise Hyams (Item 2)

## 2 PARLIAMENT SQUARE, LONDON, SW1P 3JX

A memorial to Emmeline Pankhurst in the form of a bronze statue on stone plinth set within the existing memorials on the west side of Parliament Square Gardens.

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Additional representations were received from two interested parties (undated) and Sir Neil Thorne (24/09/17).

Late representations were received from Sir Neil Thorne (16/09/17 and 18/09/17), RadcliffesLeBrasseur (18/09/17), six MPs Andrew Rosindell, Mark Menzies, Glyn Davies; Henry Smith, Alec Shellbrooke and Pauline Latham (12/09/17) and eleven interested parties (15/09/17, 16/09/17, 17/09/17 and 19/09/17)

Councillor Louise Hyams addressed the Sub-Committee in her capacity as ward member.

### RESOLVED:

That whilst the Sub-Committee was supportive of the application it be deferred in order for the applicant to submit a listed building consent application to remove/relocate the existing memorial to Emmeline Pankhurst located in Victoria Tower Gardens. Both applications to be then reported back to the Sub-Committee.



<b>CITY OF WESTMINSTER</b>			
<b>PLANNING APPLICATIONS SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Date</b> 19 SEPTEMBER 2017	<b>Classification</b> For General Release	
<b>Report of</b> Director of Planning		<b>Ward(s) involved</b> St James's	
<b>Subject of Report</b>	Parliament Square, London, SW1P 3JX,		
<b>Proposal</b>	A memorial to Emmeline Pankhurst in the form of a bronze statue on stone plinth set within the existing memorials on the west side of Parliament Square Gardens.		
<b>Agent</b>	Mr O'Connor		
<b>On behalf of</b>	Sir Neil Thorne		
<b>Registered Number</b>	17/04187/FULL	<b>Date amended/ completed</b>	27 June 2017
<b>Date Application Received</b>	12 May 2017		
<b>Historic Building Grade</b>	Unlisted		
<b>Conservation Area</b>	Westminster Abbey And Parliament Square		

## 1. RECOMMENDATION

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the Committee agree that the particular circumstances of this proposal do not constitute "an exceptionally good reason" to justify a departure from the Council's presumption against new memorials in this part of the City as set out in the "Statues and Monuments in Westminster" Supplementary Planning Document (2008).</li> <li>Subject to 1 above, refuse planning permission.</li> </ol> |
|---|

## 2. SUMMARY

This proposal is for the erection of a statue of Emmeline Pankhurst on Canning Green in Parliament Square. Parliament Square is in the Westminster Abbey and Parliament Square Conservation Area and is an Area of Special Archaeological Priority. It adjoins the Palace of Westminster, Westminster Abbey and Church of St Margaret World Heritage Site. The buildings around the Square are all listed, many of them being of outstanding international importance. The Square, itself, is included in the English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest at Grade II.

The proposed statue is by Angela Connor FRBS who is a very experienced sculptor with an international reputation. The statue will be cast in bronze and is described by the proposer as "pushing against the wind undeflected in the journey to her final goal "Votes for women." The figure would be placed upon a large, elaborate plinth some 8.1m high. While the scale of this is significant, it is of a similar scale to the plinths of Lincoln and Canning, the two adjacent statues on Canning Green. The statue itself would be double life size (3.4m), again similar to the adjacent figures. Some of the details of the plinth are quite intricate and it is considered that a more simple treatment to the

plinth would better suit the character of the area and other statues nearby. Were permission to have been recommended favourably, a condition could have been attached requiring amendments to the detailed plinth design. A maquette will be available to view at the Committee meeting.

The location on Canning Green is midway between the existing statues of Canning and Lincoln and while there appears to be sufficient space for a statue of this scale, there would be some potential impact on adjacent trees. The Council's Arboricultural Officer has raised some concern about the impact on these trees but considers that subject to further details of the tree impact and foundation design, it should be possible to protect the retained trees.

Policy DES 7 of the UDP generally welcomes public art and statuary within the City. However, the unprecedented demand for statues and monuments in recent years has led to an over-concentration of memorials in parts of the City and suitable locations are becoming increasingly difficult to find. The Council's Supplementary Planning Document "Statues and Monuments in Westminster" provides guidance for the erection of new monuments. It identifies a Monument Saturation Zone, covering most of Whitehall and St James's, where applications for new statues and monuments will not be permitted unless there is an exceptionally good reason. Parliament Square falls within this zone.

The proposed statue should therefore only proceed if there is an "exceptionally good reason" to justify exemption to our normal guidance. It is considered, in this case, that the site on Canning Green is one that could accommodate a statue of this scale without any adverse impact on the Square or its surroundings. It is also considered that this is probably the last available space for a new monument/statue in Parliament Square.

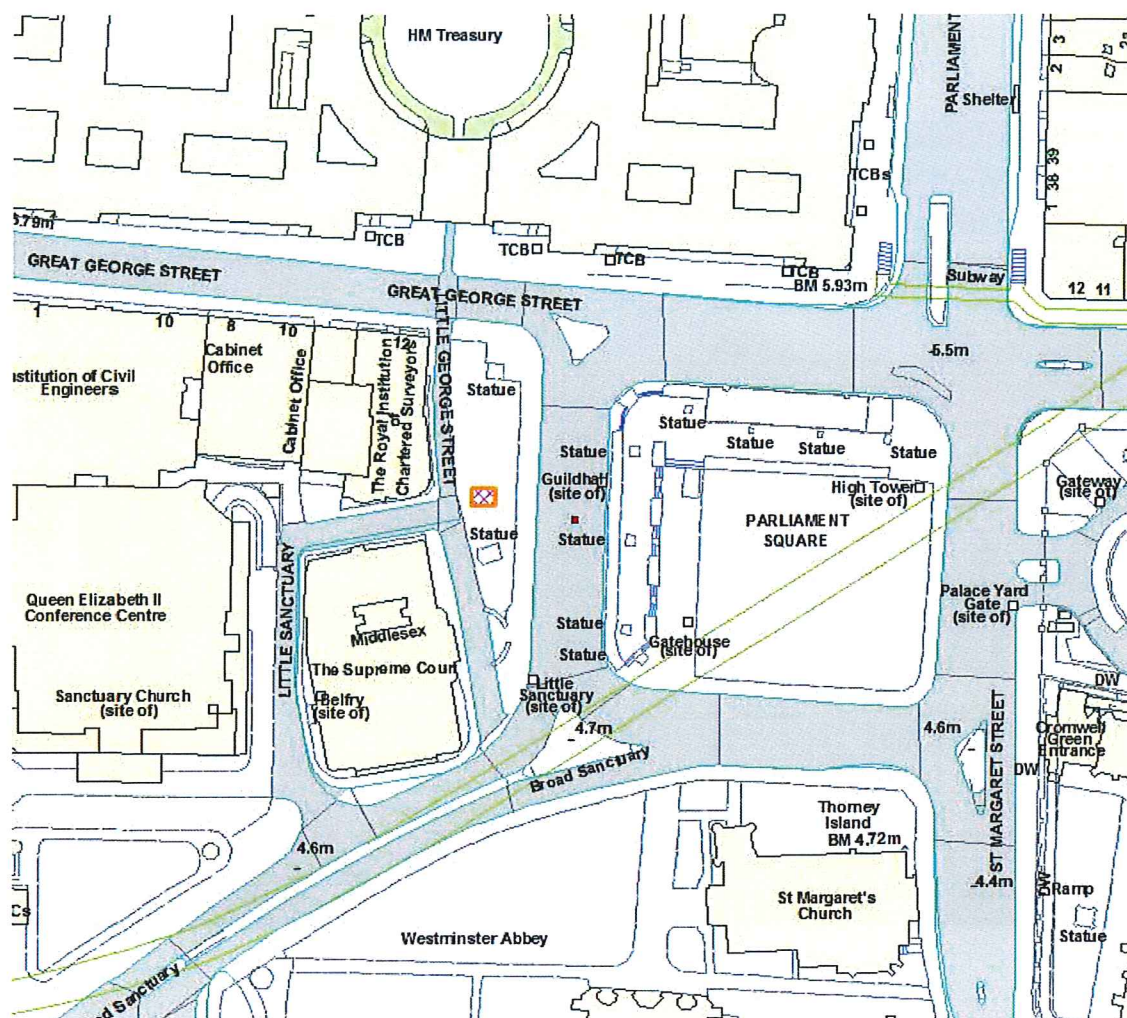
However, with regard to the subject matter, there is concern that it duplicates other nearby monuments that commemorate the same cause (Votes for Women) and the same person (Emmeline Pankhurst). On the basis that the Committee have consented to approve the statue to Millicent Fawcett, this proposal would be the second statue to the Suffrage Movement in the Square. There is also an existing statue to Emmeline Pankhurst in Victoria Tower Gardens which is listed grade II. Given the extreme scarcity of locations suitable for statues and monuments within the Saturation Zone and particularly within Parliament Square, it is considered that there is insufficient justification to allow another monument to the same cause and person as other nearby monuments. It is Officer's considered opinion that the Millicent Fawcett statue proposed for the central Square is the more considered proposal and that that site is more high profile and appropriate for the important subject being commemorated. It's location alongside the other Civil Rights activists, Mandela and Gandhi, seems highly appropriate. For this reason, it is not considered that the proposed monument constitutes an "exceptionally good reason" for overturning the Council's normal policy guidance.

The site at Canning Green is managed and maintained by Royal Parks and the proposers of the statue will have to get the consent and agree ongoing maintenance with the Royal Parks if the application is approved. There is no financial implication for the City Council.

The proposal has received 118 letters of support.



### 3. LOCATION PLAN



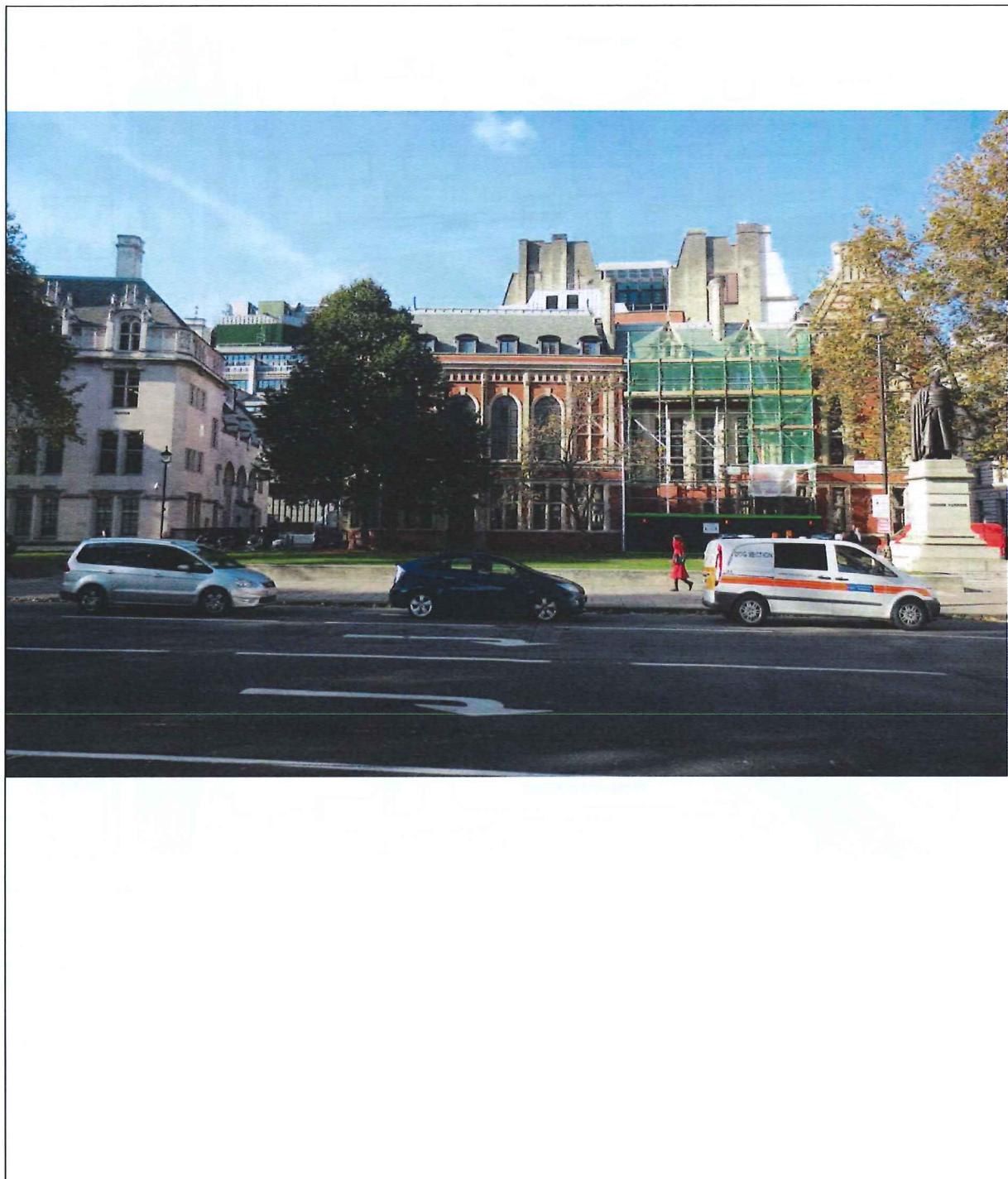
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Item No.

~~02~~

#### 4. PHOTOGRAPHS



Item No.
02

## **5. CONSULTATIONS**

COUNCILLOR FLIGHT  
Supports the proposal.

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY  
Any response will be reported verbally.

HISTORIC ENGLAND  
Any response will be reported verbally.

HISTORIC ENGLAND (ARCHAEOLOGY)  
No objection.

WESTMINSTER SOCIETY  
Any response will be reported verbally.

THE GARDENS TRUST  
No objection.

THE DESIGN COUNCIL  
Any response will be reported verbally.

HIGHWAYS PLANNING  
No objection.

ARBORICULTURAL MANAGER  
No objection, subject to conditions.

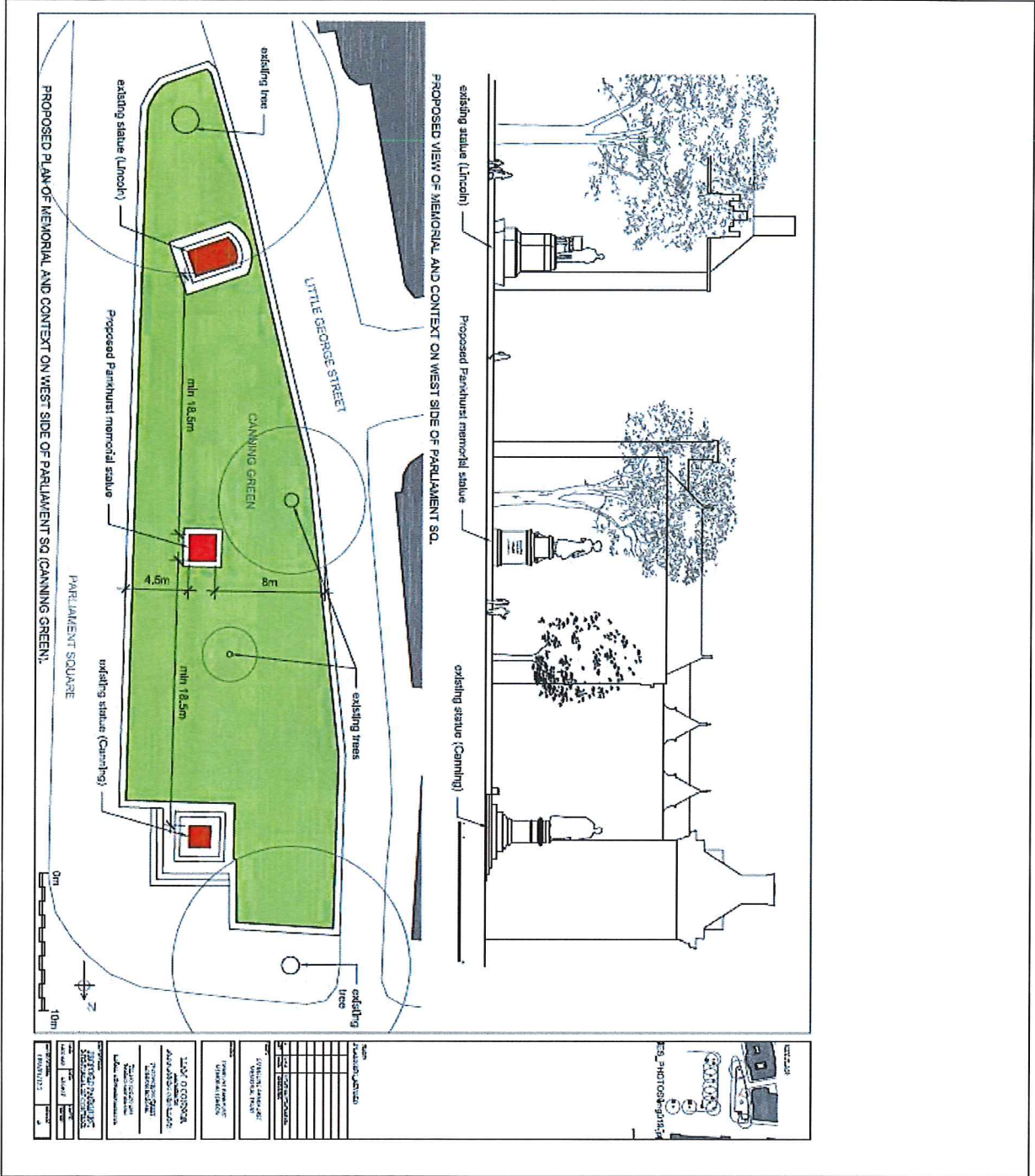
CRIME PREVENTION DESIGN ADVISOR  
Any response will be reported verbally.

ADJOINING OWNERS/OCCUPIERS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED  
No. Consulted: 0  
Total No. of replies: 118  
No. of objections: 0  
No. in support: 118

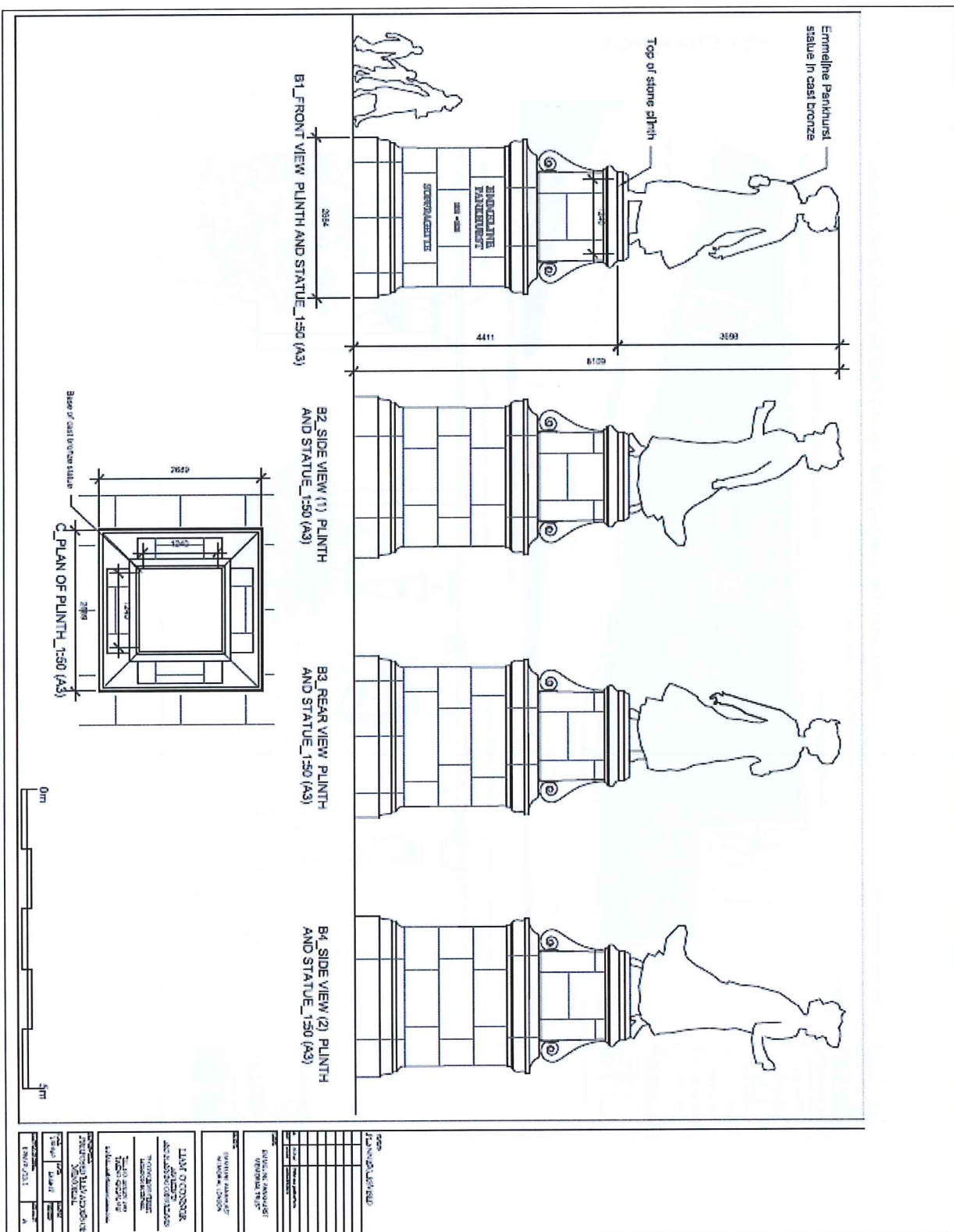
PRESS ADVERTISEMENT / SITE NOTICE: Yes

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

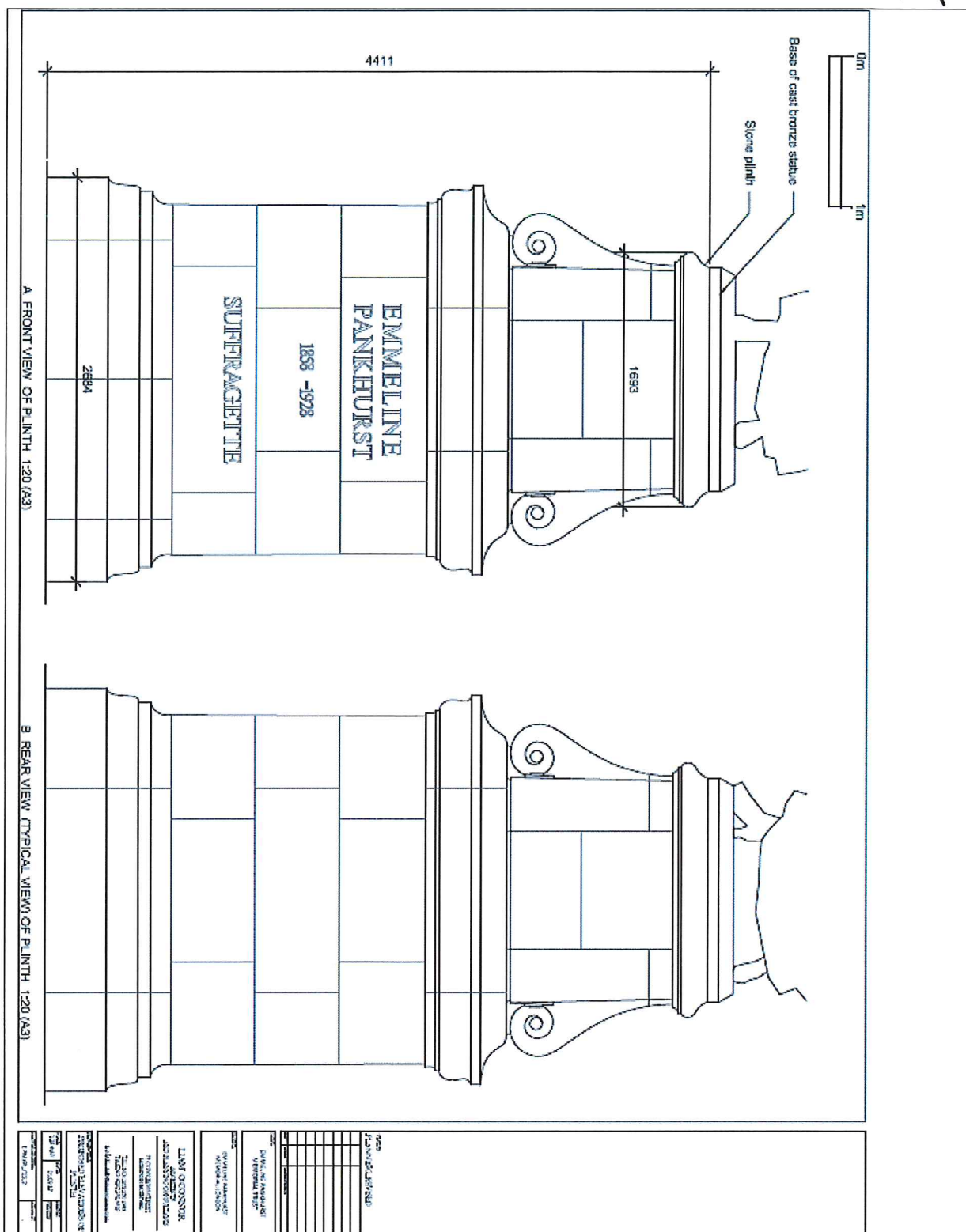
7. KEY DRAWINGS







06



**DRAFT DECISION LETTER**

**Address:** Parliament Square, London, SW1P 3JX,

**Proposal:** A memorial to Emmeline Pankhurst in the form of a bronze statue on stone plinth set within the existing memorials on the west side of Parliament Square Gardens.

**Reference:** 17/04187/FULL

**Plan Nos:** EPM/PL/12.1/A, 13.1/A, 13.2; Maquette Study SK-01, 02, 03 and 04.; and Planning Statement dated May 2017.

**Case Officer:** David Clegg

**Direct Tel. No.** 020 7641 3014

**Recommended Condition(s) and Reason(s)**

- Reason:
- 1 Because of its location within the City Council's Monument Saturation Zone, the proposed sculpture would fail to maintain or improve (preserve or enhance) the character or appearance of the Westminster Abbey and Parliament square Conservation Area. This would not meet S25 of our City Plan adopted November 2013 and DES 7 of our Unitary Development Plan that we adopted in January 2007. It would also not comply with guidance in our Supplementary Planning Document "Statues and Monuments in Westminster" that we adopted in 2008.

Please note: the full text for informatives can be found in the Council's Conditions, Reasons & Policies handbook, copies of which can be found in the Committee Room whilst the meeting is in progress, and on the Council's website.