



*Friends of St. James's Park and The Green Park*

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For the attention of Mike Gray

18th January 2012

Dear Mr. Gray

**11/11827FULL**

Palace of Westminster, St Margaret Street, London, SW1P 3JX  
**Alteration to existing security barriers on colonnade roof as part of  
perimeter security improvement**

We have looked via the WCC web site, at the Design and Access Statement and the Application drawings by the architects, Feilden and Mawson. We make the following observations and comments.

The drawings are somewhat diagrammatic in presentation style which does not assist the true appreciation of the detail design. More particularly they are not helpful in assessing the degree to which the changes will cause the security barriers to be more visually obstructive. It would be very regrettable if it were the case that the proposals were in fact to be just that.

For example the illustration presented on page 8 of the Design and Access Statement, shows the proposed colonnade screen as a considerably visually intrusive combination of railings. If this is in fact the likely realistic case we would find the proposal unacceptable; considering it to be poorly designed, especially for this most important and unique historic cultural site.

By contrast, it should be noted that drawing No.102 of the proposals shows the railings to be so 'thin', to the point where the proposed new railings are barely visible.

The Thorney Island Society is therefore unable to assess the impact of the proposals and recommends that the Applicant be asked to provide drawings with adequate visual illustration of the true impact of their proposals. Without this it is not possible for the Committee to reach a reliable judgement. Under these circumstances, the Society formally objects to the proposal based on the inadequacy of the information provided.

We ask that our comments be made known to the Committee.

Yours Sincerely  
for and on behalf of the Thorney Island Society

*PP Tom Ball*

**June A Stubbs**  
Chairman

