

DATE: 19 February 2010



Greenwich Hospital

GREENWICH HOSPITAL TO LODGE APPEAL ON GREENWICH MARKET REGENERATION SCHEME TO PLANNING INSPECTOR

Greenwich Hospital will lodge an Appeal on the Greenwich Market regeneration with the Planning Inspectorate early next week.

Commenting today Martin Sands, Director of Greenwich Hospital, said:

"On 26th August 2009 Greenwich Council Planning Board met and decided not to approve the proposals for the regeneration of Greenwich Market put forward by Greenwich Hospital.

"After the refusal I promised that Greenwich Hospital would carefully consider the next steps with professional advisers, was committed to Greenwich Market and would continue to support stallholders and shops in the market through our Shop Greenwich campaign and in other ways.

"Greenwich Hospital has now decided to lodge an Appeal on the original Greenwich Market planning application with the Planning Inspectorate; however we continue to meet with Greenwich Council Officers and we hope to negotiate and reach agreement on as many issues as possible.

"The Planning Inspectorate will now consider the original application submitted to Greenwich Council and will make an independent determination of the application.

"The Hospital's criteria for the regeneration of Greenwich Market has always been that any improvements to the Hospital's properties in Greenwich town centre would need to:

- Retain the diversity of shops and stalls.
- Be architecturally, physically and financially viable.
- Be capable of standing the test of time.
- Be mindful of Greenwich's status as a World Heritage Site and as a Maritime Heritage Site.
- Complement Greenwich's unique position as a tourist and retail destination.

“Greenwich Hospital continues to believe that the market regeneration scheme which was not approved by Greenwich Council in August 2009 meets the above criteria.

“The Planning Inspectorate will now have a statutory timetable to make its determination. If the Planning Inspectorate approves the application Greenwich Hospital would not commence any on site works until 2013.”

-ENDS-

For further information, contact David McFarlane or Harriet Kerr at Sensitive Projects:

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Editor's Notes

Background

Greenwich Hospital is a Crown charity, established in 1694, which provides charitable support to serving and retired men and women of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines and to their dependants. It devotes its resources to paying pensions; providing grants to naval charities, running three sheltered housing schemes; and awarding means tested bursaries at the Royal Hospital School. The Hospital does no fund-raising and its outputs are met entirely from its investments including the Greenwich Estate.

Greenwich Hospital owns a large proportion of Greenwich Town Centre including Greenwich Market.

Further information on planning appeals and the Planning Inspectorate can be found at: www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk

Further information on the time an appeal would take can be found at: www.planningportal.gov.uk/england/public/planning/appeals/appealhandlingtimes