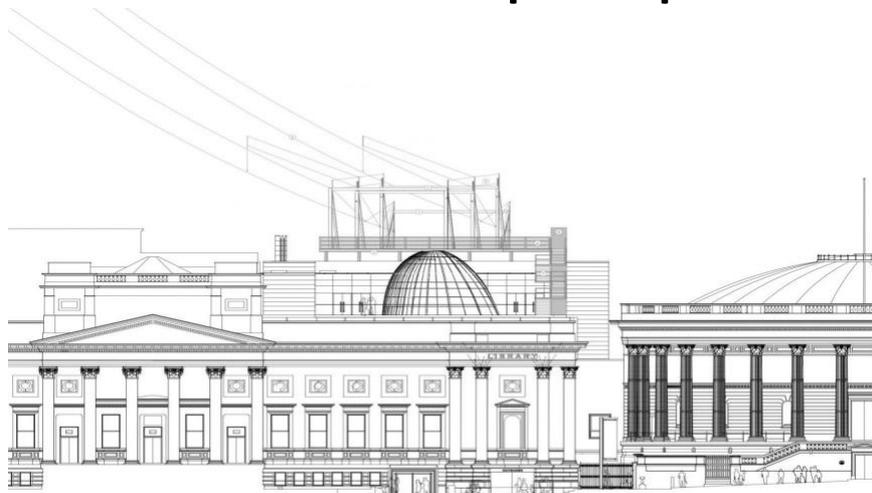


Victorian Society slams Liverpool Council's approval of controversial zip wire plans



The Victorian Society deplores the recent decision of Liverpool City Council to grant planning permission for a zip wire between St John's Beacon and the Central Library building.

Tom Taylor, Conservation Adviser for the Victorian Society, states, 'The buildings along William Brown Street, together with St George's Hall, form one of the finest groups of neoclassical civic buildings in the country. The consistently high quality of the architecture has few equals in Europe, let alone in England, and St George's Hall is deservedly the centrepiece of this part of Liverpool's World Heritage Site. The proposed zip wire will trivialise the setting of this magnificent group of buildings and seriously harm the reflective and dignified character of St John's Gardens. Liverpool's 19th century architectural heritage is of international renown and one of the greatest contributors to the City's success. Liverpool City Council has demonstrated over a number of years that it does not take this heritage sufficiently seriously and has given listed building consent to various insensitive proposals that cause unnecessary harm to the historic environment. This proposal will bring very little public benefit and will result in disproportionate harm.'

We call on the City Council to take this opportunity to take seriously its duty to protect Liverpool's historic environment and reverse its harmful decision.

The Victorian Society is the charity championing Victorian and Edwardian buildings in England and Wales. Our Conservation Advisers help local planning authorities and churches to make better decisions about adapting Victorian and Edwardian buildings to the way we live now, while keeping what is special about them. We also seek to engage the public in our campaigns to help increase the likelihood of conserving buildings.

For further information and for high-resolution images please contact:

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