

## **An Open Letter to the Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive of Liverpool City Council**

We are appalled by the decision of Liverpool Planning Committee to approve an application for the installation of zipwires across the west facade of St George's Hall, for the construction of gantries and a landing deck on the top of the Central Library and for change of use of part of the Central Library so that it can be allocated to the operator of the zipwire attraction.

Councillors will be in no doubt of the significance of the location. Views of St George's Hall, St John's Gardens and the William Brown Street buildings are continually shown, quite rightly, in publicity about the City's cultural assets. In fact St George's Hall is the very exemplar of Victorian municipal Classicism. As you know, a Grade I listed building, a Grade II\* listed building, a Conservation Area and a World Heritage Site are involved.

We strongly disagree with the Council's view (stated in their recommendation to the Committee) that the level of harm to these heritage assets "will be towards the lower end of the less than substantial harm spectrum." On the contrary we believe that the proposals will deal a devastating blow to the complex of buildings and the Gardens, to numerous parts of it, and to its overall coherence.

We come from a range of backgrounds, from Liverpool and from far afield, but we are united in our love for this extraordinary and wonderful place, and we do not wish to see its significance compromised, if not mutilated.

The execution of the proposals will depend on the Council allowing the Central Library to be used as the base for the zipwire operation. We strongly urge that they do not proceed with this, and that the Approval be allowed to lapse.

*The following 181 signatories have come together for no other reason than to jointly express our deep concern about the Zipwires proposal. Further information is available on the Engage Liverpool website: [www.engageliverpool.com](http://www.engageliverpool.com)*

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