

Mr Stephen Peover
Permanent Secretary
Department of the Environment
Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB

November 14 2006

Dear Mr Peover,

**Request for urgent conservation area designation of 'Library Quarter',
Belfast City Centre**

The Ulster Architectural Heritage Society, Belfast Civic Trust and Belfast Buildings Preservation Trust are extremely concerned at the threat posed to the historic character of the above area (shown on attached map) and would ask that it be designated a conservation area as a matter of urgency, outwith the area plan process.

Part One of DSD's North West Quarter Masterplan recognises at paragraph 3.2 that the area boasts "a number of fine Victorian buildings". Part Two (launched on 7th November) comments at paragraph 10.11 that "the portion of the study area, which falls within the Press/Library Quarter, is densely developed with a rich historic urban grain, a large percentage of which remains intact. *This historic grain should be protected and complemented to increase wider integration with the City Centre as a whole*".

No statutory protection is currently offered to the area, which is under increasing pressure from inappropriate development. We urge the Department to act swiftly and designate it as a conservation area before its special character is lost. We would be most grateful for a response to our request as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Jane McClure
Chairman, Ulster Architectural Heritage Society

David Flinn
Chairman, Belfast Civic Trust

Fionnuala Jay O'Boyle
Patron, Belfast Buildings Preservation Trust

c.c. David Ferguson, Chief Executive, DoE Planning Service
Tom Clarke, Acting Director, Strategic Policy
Al Adair, Acting Manager, Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan
John Cummins, Belfast Divisional Planning Manager
Alan Shannon, Permanent Secretary, DSD
Jackie Johnston, DSD Belfast City Centre Regeneration Directorate
Robert Heslip, Heritage Officer, Belfast City Council

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Company Registration Number NI 35582 A Charity. Registered Office as above

copy

Mrs Peover

We should count this
as a consultation
space for consultation

John. ^{cf.}
14/12/06.

ps
Have sent letter acknowledgment
receipt.

George please
note
above

Centre (333671, 374810)

