

C04/06807/DC

HRH The Prince of Wales KG KT GCB
Clarence House
LONDON
SW1A 1BA

20th February 2005



Sir

I am aware that you wrote to Sir Neil Cossons in March last year, expressing support for the listing of the General Market and Annexe buildings at Smithfield Market.

After careful consideration of this evidence, and advice from English Heritage, I have decided to list, at Grade II, the Red House cold store for the reasons set out in the attached decision letter. For example, the Red House is now believed to be the earliest example of a powered, purpose-built cold store in the country, and its exterior contributes to the architectural and historic interest of the Market as a whole.

I share your concern about the fate of these buildings, and whilst the General Market and lavatory block do not appear to be of sufficient architectural and historic merit to meet the listing criteria in their own right, I consider that they nevertheless provide an important contribution to the character of this historic area. I have therefore written to the Deputy Prime Minister, suggesting that he call in the conservation area consent application for the demolition of these three buildings.

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TESSA JOWELL

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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HIGHGROVE HOUSE

27th March, 2005

Dear Tessa,

Thank you very much indeed for your letter of 28th February and the welcome news of the listing of the Red House cold store at Smithfield Market.

Needless to say, I was extremely glad to read of your appreciation of the value of this group of buildings. As you know, I attach the greatest importance to preserving, restoring and re-using such precious heritage townscapes and I can only pray that the Deputy Prime Minister will take your advice and give the most careful consideration to development plans. I shall follow what ensues with the greatest possible interest, particularly in view of what happened at Bishopsgate Goods Yard...

Just replicate

Murray

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