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22 December 2016

Mr Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA

Dear Mayor

**PROTECTED VIEW OF ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
FROM KING HENRY'S MOUND, RICHMOND PARK**

Thank you for your statement at the London Assembly last week that you will extend the protected view from Richmond Park to St Paul's from its present end-point to Stratford and beyond. We are grateful for your swift action following our letter of 18 November.

Can you confirm that you will implement the extension as soon as possible and not await a more general revision to the LVMF? It would be useful for us and I expect for developers to know exactly what the new rules are.

Can you also confirm:

- that you will extend the background assessment area as far back as it needs to go in order to prevent further encroachments, based on a topographic approach rather than on a prediction of which sites are likely to attract proposals for tall buildings, as was the case in 1991;
- that you will take all necessary steps in conjunction with the Department for Communities and Local Government to procure the necessary amendments to the Secretary of State's Directions

We are also concerned that there may be other developments already in the planning process that will impinge on the view. Can you give us assurances:

- that if an application is referred to you pursuant to The Town and Country Planning (Mayor of London) Order 2008 as an application of potential strategic importance (i.e. not pursuant to the LVMF) GLA officers will nevertheless assess the effect of the proposed building on the protected views and advise accordingly;
- that all future applications and all those currently awaiting determination in Stratford and elsewhere will be subject to the extended regime;
- that, if there are recently-granted planning permissions where the development will impinge on the view, you will review these and engage with the developer about ways of mitigating its impact

You suggested in your statement to the Assembly in reply to the specific question from Tony Arbour AM, that you would extend other views in a similar manner. On behalf of others, such as the Friends of other Royal Parks and the Heath and Hampstead Society,

can you assure us that the review and any required extensions will also happen as soon as possible and not await a more general revision to the LVMF?

We are also trying to get the developer of Manhattan Loft Gardens to implement visual mechanisms that will reduce the building's impact on the view. We understand that you have limited powers in this area but would appreciate your asking the GLA planning department for what options might be possible that would also fit with the planning rules.

An e-mail reply to our questions is sufficient.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Crompton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Ron Crompton
Chairman, Friends of Richmond Park
ron.crompton@frp.org.uk

cc

Mr Jules Pipe, Deputy Mayor, Planning, Regeneration and Skills
Mr Gavin Barwell MP, Minister of State (Department for Communities and Local Government) (Housing, Planning and London)
Cllr Tony Arbour, AM Hounslow, Kingston and Richmond
Cllr Lord True, Leader of the Council, Richmond upon Thames Borough Council
Cllr Susan Chappell, Cabinet Member, Community, Planning and the Voluntary Sector, Richmond upon Thames Borough Council
Ms Sarah Olney, MP
Mr Andrew Scattergood, Chief Executive, The Royal Parks
Mr Simon Richards, Park Manager, Richmond Park

