

From: Jill Lovecy [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 March 2017 14:45
To: reviews
Subject: Objection to Proposed Removal of Whitworth Art Gallery and Whitworth Park from Moss Side Ward, Manchester

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Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing on behalf of Claremont Primary School Governing Body. We wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposal to break the historic tie between the Whitworth Art Gallery and Park and Moss Side. We can find no rationale for this proposal. It involves no significant transfer of population.

As a school we work very closely with the educational outreach services of the Whitworth Art Gallery. Our children and their parents visit the Gallery and our most gifted art students are enrolled in special educational programs there. For our children and their parents - and for the children and parents of our neighbouring Moss Side schools - the fact that this world-class cultural institution is part -and- parcel of our neighbourhood is a source of great pride. would remove from a very deprived ward a major cultural institution is a source of pride for our that the whole rationale for Maria B's appointment - and for the very substantial Nat Lottery funding awarded to the Whitworth Gallery under her leadership - was to return tis key site to what was the rationale for the original creation of the park-and -Gallery (funded by monies bequeathed by Whitworth):

viz. to entice the deprived population / families of the surrounding area, and most especially the children, through the park into the educative experience of a gallery of fine arts and design (to promote their acculturation to labour force requirements for the burgeoning textile and manufacturing industries of Manchester)

Ia. In oder to renew this primary purpose - and in MB's words to create a gallery in the park and the park in a gallery - all the fencing was taken down and a whole re-alignment of the building was undertaken with the creation of a western (Moss Side-facing) entrance (together with inviting all-glass cafe wing) specifically promoting accessibility for the people living adjacent to the park, that is the residents of Moss Side, who have direct access to the gallery from the park.

That is also why the illuminated wording on the upper western facade and the lit-up sculpture on the upper floor gallery have been sited where they are, to be visible westwards to the people living in close proximity and who are thus encouraged to see the Gallery as part of their local visual landscape - that is tthe residents of Moss Side (and also Hulme).

This primary rationale of building a relationship between the Gallery and the people living closest to it it would be destroyed by artificially attaching it to the ward of Ardwick with which the park and Gallery have no historical nor any significant geographical linkage.

Sent from my iPhone