The Tulip Project welcomes City of London Planning and Transportation Committee resolution to grant planning permission for The Tulip

LONDON, 2 APRIL 2019: The Tulip Project welcomes the City of London Planning and Transportation Committee resolution to grant planning permission for construction of The Tulip, which would be sited next to 30 St Mary Axe, also known as The Gherkin.

The Committee’s positive decision follows the recommendation of the City planning officer’s report which noted the significant public socio-economic and cultural benefits for the City, London, and the U.K.

As part of the planning application process, The Tulip Project submitted an Economic Impact Assessment by Deloitte, which estimated that The Tulip would offer economic benefits to London of nearly £1 billion in total monetized value by 2045 and 600 additional permanent full time jobs during 20 years of operations.

According to an independent representative poll of Londoners, conducted by ComRes, two thirds of London adults (65%) think that The Tulip would be an attractive addition to the London skyline, while 69% believe that the proposed development would have a positive impact on ‘the City’s attractiveness as a visitor and cultural destination’.

During the planning application process, The Tulip Project team have engaged with a significant number of local stakeholders including heritage bodies, schools, businesses and residents in the City and neighbouring boroughs. These discussions, together with the views of the planning officers, have allowed us to tailor the proposal to meet their needs and concerns, for example regarding the public realm and the expanded educational facility for free use by 40,000 London state school children per year and by community groups.

The proposal will now be subject to review by the Mayor of London, who will consider the City’s positive decision in the wider context of London’s role as a leading global capital.

Notes to Editors:

- The agenda of today’s Committee meeting and the City of London planning officer’s report can be found here.

- The City of London will now submit its resolution to grant planning permission to the office of the Mayor of London, Mr. Sadiq Khan. 

- Subject to the planning approval process, construction on The Tulip could begin in 2020 with completion projected for 2025.

- A planning application was submitted to the City of London on 13 November 2018 for The Tulip, a new public cultural attraction which would be sited next to 30 St Mary Axe, also known as The Gherkin.
This project is proposed by J. Safra Group and Foster + Partners, owners and architects respectively of 30 St Mary Axe. Deriving its name from its nature-inspired form, The Tulip would enhance The Gherkin, one of London’s most cherished and recognisable buildings and offer a new state-of-the-art cultural and educational resource for Londoners and tourists.

Analysis undertaken by the economic consultancy Deloitte found that the Tulip would boost the Greater London economy by an additional £970 million in total monetised value by 2045. The research showed that the development will provide a total positive impact to the UK economy of £1.6 billion in monetised terms and would create 460 full time jobs per year during construction and 600 additional permanent full-time jobs during 20 years of operations. It is available on the City of London Corporation’s planning portal here.

According to a representative poll of Londoners, conducted by ComRes, a leading independent research consultancy, two thirds of London adults (65%) think that The Tulip, would be an attractive addition to the London skyline. The survey of more than 1,000 Londoners London adults aged 18+ online between 13th and 18th December 2018 found that 69% of the London public believed that the proposed development would have a positive impact on ‘the City’s attractiveness as a visitor and cultural destination’; the poll also showed support for the view that the development would have a positive impact on ‘the economy of the City’ (63%); ‘the number of tourists in London’ (61%) and ‘the economy of London’ (58%). Full tables of the poll can be read here.

Overall since submission of the planning application, there have been 11 public exhibitions between December 2018 and March 2019, attended by 593 persons of which 127 provided feedback.

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