

# WHITBREAD

Dear Neighbour,

## **Advance notice – demolition of residual building on 5 Strand**

From the moment we announced our purchase of 5 Strand one message from our neighbours, other residents and stakeholders has stood out to us – you would like the site tidied, improved and brought back into long-term use.

We acted quickly to improve the monoflex wrapper on site and to remove waste left by the previous owner. We have also worked with Westminster Council and the Metropolitan Police to redesign the scaffolding gantry on The Strand to improve the sense of safety for pedestrians.

The residents and stakeholders I met and spoke to at our first public exhibition last week appreciated these actions. But they also made the point that we have an opportunity to improve security and reduce anti-social behaviour around 5 Strand – now and during the operation of the proposed hotel.

I am therefore writing to give you advanced notice of our intention to start demolishing the residual structure on 5 Strand in late May. This work will run parallel to our planning application for the proposed new hotel which will be submitted to Westminster Council this summer.

The intention is to demolish the current structure to the ground-floor level, except for the bridge over Corner House Street. Once complete, this will enable the scaffolding on The Strand and Craven Street to be removed. We believe an increased presence on site during demolition will also help to reduce anti-social behaviour around 5 Strand.

A further phase of demolition will be undertaken once the design of the proposed hotel has been completed and approved by Westminster City Council.

We intend to commence the first phase of demolition on Saturday 27 May 2023 and it is anticipated to take eight weeks to complete. We will also need to close Northumberland Street for a single day to instal the demolition plant on the site.

Erith, a specialist demolition contractor, has been appointed to undertake the demolition for us. Erith has developed a detailed management plan for the demolition which seeks to minimise disruption as much as possible.

We will arrange a convenient time to talk to you about how we intend to undertake the demolition, the timing of the work, and the actions Erith will take to ensure safety and minimise disruption in the next few weeks. It will also give us the opportunity to introduce colleagues at Erith, Whitbread, and our consultant teams who will be heavily involved in the project to you.

I do appreciate demolition is a disruptive activity and though I do not underestimate this, the work will improve 5 Strand and will be another positive step in improving the safety and security around the site.

If you have any initial concerns or feedback, or would like any additional information at this stage, then please do get in touch to get in touch with Concilio, with whom we are working on public engagement, by emailing [ltatton@conciliocomms.com](mailto:ltatton@conciliocomms.com) or calling our freephone number on **0800 994 9322**.

Yours,

Jonathan Langdon  
Acquisitions Manager – Central London