

Design and Access Statement

Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust
The Old Library, London Road, Reading

Roof Repairs to The Old Library

The Proposals

This proposal is a precautionary Listed Building application for the repair work for The Old Library, part of the Royal Berkshire Hospital site. The current state of the roof is in urgent need of repair as it has begun to leak due to natural weathering and may damage the historic fabric. The proposal is to replace the Welsh slate and leadwork, all to maintain the same arrangement of layout and pitch. As this is a repair, this application may not be required as pre-application advice could not be sought, but due to the urgency, especially on current import times on Welsh slate due to the current pandemic, we felt an application should be made.

Design

The repair work will follow a complete like for like basis for all materials and accessories. This is to maintain the character of the building and avoid any changes or alterations in the buildings current nature. The interior will be surveyed once the leaks are repaired to check for any internal damage and repairs undertaken if required.

The work is being completed by a competent roofing contact with previous experience and over seen by a firm of architects that work with listed buildings on a regular basis.

Access

Access to the roof will be via scaffolding that is currently erected in the North Block car park. This is a self-supported structure and is not tied to the building in any lasting way and will be removed when the roof repairs are completed.