

FAO: Philip Forster, Wrexham Brorough County Council

By email: philip.forster@wrexham.gov.uk

11th May 2018

Your ref. 1848
CBA ID. 145223.

Dear Philip,

Viewing platform at Adam Tower, Chirk Castle.

Thank you for notifying the SPAB of the application to form a viewing platform on the Adam Tower at the Grade I listed Chirk Castle. Whilst we have not had the opportunity to visit the building we have reviewed the documentation submitted and would like to provide the following observations.

This application seeks consent to form a platform and balustrade above Adam Tower to provide and enhance the visitor experience of Chirk castle.

The design of the balustrade and platform has been expressed in a contemporary manner and aim to minimise the visual impact from and to the Tower, an approach supported by the SPAB. The detailing and material palette also appear to have been carefully considered. The specification of the balustrade, platform and associated fixings must ensure that galvanic (bimetallic) corrosion from the contact and/or water run off from metals incompatible with the existing fabric (lead, *cast iron?*) are avoided.

The removable lightweight grid used to form the platform will provide greater and safer access for inspecting and maintaining the lead roof area. The applicant may wish to consider integrating a man-safe fall arrest system/ fixing points to the stainless steel legs/baseplate to provide additional safe access to maintain and inspect the flat lead roof between the Adam Tower and West Range as the parapet wall appears to be very low.

We are **supportive** of this application and trust that our comments are helpful to you. Please let us know the outcome of this application in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Elgan Jones RIBA AABC
Casework Officer (Wales)
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