

---

**THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY**  
The champion for Victorian and Edwardian architecture

Jane Curley  
Development Management  
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council  
PO Box 136  
BUXTON  
SK17 1AQ

Your reference: SMD/2016/0113 and  
SMD/2016/0115  
Our reference: 2016/04/008

11 April 2016

jane.curley@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk

Dear Ms Curley

**RE: London Mill, Ashbourne Road, Leek (Grade II, c. 1853); application for the conversion of the former mill to 21 managed workspace units**

Thank you for consulting the Victorian Society on this application. I write in support of Historic England and its concern, expressed in Julie Taylor's letter of 11 March, at the proposed removal of the surviving and intact historic northlight windows. The northlights are a characterful feature of the building's exterior, contribute to the special interest of the building and have a major impact on defining the internal character of building's uppermost floor. The northlight windows should be retained and restored as part of the wider conversion of the building.

I would be grateful if you could inform me of your decision in due course.

Yours sincerely

James Hughes

**Senior Conservation Adviser**

cc Julie Taylor (Historic England)

Gillian Bayliss (Staffordshire Moorlands District Council)

**Patron**  
HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG, GCVO  
**President**  
The Lord Briggs  
**Chair**  
Professor Hilary Grainger

**Vice Presidents**  
Sir David Cannadine  
The Lord Howarth of Newport CBE  
Sir Simon Jenkins  
Griff Rhys Jones  
Fiona MacCarthy OBE

1 Priory Gardens, London W4 1TT  
Telephone 020 8994 1019  
admin@victoriansociety.org.uk  
www.victoriansociety.org.uk