

# THE CITY OF DURHAM TRUST

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c/o Blackett, Hart & Pratt, LLP  
Aire House  
Mandale Business Park  
Belmont  
Durham, DH1 1TH  
18 June 2025

Alan Fenwick  
Durham County Council Planning Department  
PO Box 274 Stanley County Durham DH8 1HG

## **DM/25/01451/LB**

Removal of historic plaster from Senate Suite Room walls for research purposes

University College, Durham Castle, Palace Green, Durham DH1 3RW

Dear Mr Fenwick

The City of Durham Trust would like to support the application by Durham University to remove historic plaster from the Senate Suite Room in Durham Castle to enable archaeological inspection and recording of the masonry walls. This will facilitate research into the history of Durham Castle, especially its Norman origins in relation to the Norman chapel in the space below this room. This is a unique opportunity to do so while the tapestries that usually hang in this room have been removed for conservation. It is important that planning permission is applied for because of the historic significance of this Grade I building that forms a partner with Durham Cathedral as the World Heritage Site.

Yours sincerely

John Lowe

Chair, City of Durham Trust