Description: Proposal to demolish three existing houses, to construct four basement car park levels (class 4a) commercial ground floor and mezzanine, 15 apartments and 12 penthouses with pools

Location: 8,9,10,11,12 Triq Hughes Hallett, Sliema

1st December 2015 - Din l-Art Helwa would like to object to the application in caption. This application proposed to demolish 3 adjacent townhouses located on Hughes Hallett Street in Sliema. Despite the fact that this site is not located within a UCA area, DLH feels that the demolition of these buildings is not justified. DLH recommends that at least the facades are retained. DLH also feels that the commercial use of the entire ground floor (367sqm) goes against the residential nature of this part of Sliema. The NHHO 01 policy allows for a maximum of 50-75 sqm for a Class 4 use. Traditional buildings such as these should not be demolished in order to retain some of the character of Sliema. Much of it has already been lost to make way for new development and DLH urges MEPA to preserve these houses and avoid the loss of further traditional houses in Sliema.

5th April 2016 - Din l-Art Helwa is concerned that these three period town houses in Qui-si-Sana in Sliema may be demolished. The facades of these adjacent houses in Hughes Hallett Street have architectural value and should be retained, as they are designed in a distinct Art Deco style typically associated with the Qui-si-Sana and Tigne area in Sliema. Moreover, MEPA did not refer the case to the Superintendence for Cultural Heritage for an expert opinion. In a similar case (PA 00473/15) involving Art Deco houses at Qui-si-Sana, only metres up the road, the Superintendence was involved. There is no justification for this inconsistent approach on two similar cases. Full demolition of these houses in now being recommended by the case officer, without having consulted any heritage experts on the matter. Din l-Art Helwa requests that consultation with the Superintendence for Cultural Heritage is carried out on this application.