

# Plans for 92-bed hotel in historic city centre landmark approved

Plans to open a hotel in a Grade II\*-listed building in Liverpool city centre have been approved.

Bar and leisure operator JSM Company Group has won permission from the city council for the scheme which will feature 92 bedrooms.

The building at 20-34 Castle Street had previously been a branch of NatWest.

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The property was constructed between 1899 and 1902 and is set over four main storeys.

A Liverpool City Council planning document said: "It is considered that the amended proposal would result in the delivery of wider public benefits... and achieve sustainable development principles in accordance with the NPPF, which would outweigh the loss of office space within the main office area in this case."

In a statement published when the plans were unveiled earlier this year, Wroot Architects said: "The front elevation of the development, facing Castle Street, will mostly remain the same. This will uphold the strong character of this iconic area of Liverpool."

The original bank building was designed by Norman Shaw for Parrs Bank. NatWest took over the building but vacated it in 2017, relocating to a new branch on the corner of Church Street and Paradise Street.

JSM Company Group is headed up by Jamie Motlagh, who also runs Pub Invest Group.

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