

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Forward Planning](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to Ballymore Proposals  
**Date:** 18 June 2024 22:27:43

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my complete objection to the proposal of constructing tower blocks in Edgware and demolishing Broadwalk Shopping Centre.

Bearing in mind that I am a mother of two adult children, I have lived in Edgware for all of my life, and have seen Edgware change, grow, and develop- more than most locals. How upsetting do you think it is that a company such as Ballymore, with no connection, neither emotional or physical, could have the gall to step into my town and cause such disruption? I am arguing on behalf of my immediate family, my siblings' families, my friends, and my late parents- all of whom live or lived in Edgware, and chose this to be their family hub. I am also fighting for the local elderly and disabled, who will be affected by the levels of dust caused by such construction, and will have no simple way of getting their groceries anymore or just getting out of their houses to avoid loneliness. No one, apart from us locals, should have the right to decide how Edgware changes in such a drastic way.

May I also mention just how unaware representatives of Ballymore were when my daughter and I went to speak to them in the Meeting Room in Broadwalk? They seemed to misunderstand the meaning of sustainability, claiming that 10 years' worth of construction wasn't going to hold any environmental impact. They also suggested that these tower blocks were supposed to be a solution to the current cost-of-living crisis- if people who are struggling to afford housing now have to wait a decade for these 'affordable' apartments to be built, how are these plans helping them? Besides, knowledge of London and my area dictates that most of these flats will be bought by overseas landlords for either their own purposes, when they choose to holiday here, or for renting out at an expensive rate- as I know has happened in Colindale. There IS an issue, affecting not just Edgware, but the rest of London, and even the UK, in that housing is unbelievably expensive and it is almost impossible nowadays to get yourself onto the property ladder- homelessness is an exponentially increasing issue- so, shouldn't there be a solution for that now? How about repairing abandoned buildings to provide homes to the less fortunate? How about raising discussions with other councils and MPs to find out what possible means of support can be provided to those in need? There are so many other solutions that do NOT involve the disruption that you are going to cause local Edgware-dwellers by going ahead with these construction proposals. And I am saying this as a non-governmental figure, and instead as a volunteer at a local charity shop- clearly, this is a sign that you, as representatives of the government for Barnet, need to do better for your people.

Finally, should you not have learned the lesson from the tragic incident that occurred at the Grenfell Tower block, just over seven years ago? If an electric bus garage is placed underground, there is an incredible fire risk- and I cannot believe that I have to mention that the lives of those in Edgware should not be so disposable so as to endanger them with the risk of a huge electrical fire. There is no excuse for such a plan, and if proper research was conducted, you would see this as well.

I hope you are able to understand the grief and distress these plans have caused, and I hope to hear your alternative solutions soon.

Many thanks for reading this,

Meena Haria

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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